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

COVER FEATURE:
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT GENERAL
Cover Image: The President General’s Project Ship Pin

MEMBERSHIP – FRIENDSHIP – LEADERSHIP

Greetings from your President General:

I’m so honored to be leading our beloved National Huguenot Society. I have a few things that I’d like all of you to know that will be important to me over the next two years.

My theme for the next two years for our society will be “Membership – Friendship – Leadership.”

Your Huguenot ancestors arrived here in the colonies in—guess what? Ships!

I want you to imagine for a moment what it was like to board a ship for the Americas…to sail and leave behind tragedy and hopelessness for a new opportunity in a world. They had courage! Many brought their family and even extended family with them on their ships. They would come to an unknown to escape the known. They would embark on a new adventure in the colonies and forge new relationships. My ancestor Jerome Dumas sailed in the Mary and Ann to land at Hampton, Virginia and then to settle in Manakintowne with other Huguenots.

Freedom for their faith!

So, in our National Society I have three “ship” goals for us:

*Membership

You’ve heard it said, “Membership is the lifeblood of any organization.” It’s true! Our numbers must increase. Some of us may only be a member of the Huguenot Society but many are in multiple societies. We need to be networking and talking about our Society. Invite people from your other organizations to join you at your next meeting. They will love our Society! If they say that they don’t think they have a Huguenot ancestor, tell them you’ll help them and show them where they need to look! The DAR recently met their goal of one million members. How wonderful! We can get new members, too. They are out there.

*Friendship

We will not feel compelled to attend the State Society or Chapter meetings if we feel that the other members don’t know us or don’t care if we come. We need to know each other! We have a heritage to be proud of. It is something we all have in common so let’s work to become better friends. Newsletters and social media are great ways to keep in touch with your State members. Does your State Society have an active Facebook Page for the public to see? And a closed member-only Facebook Group for your members? It’s free! If you post pictures of your meetings, speakers and members having fun then you will attract prospective members to your next meeting. Do you have an active and informative website? If so, I hope it is frequently updated. It may be helpful to include a list of your State Society’s approved ancestors (Georgia did this; www.huguenotga.org) and other resources for finding a Huguenot in their family tree. Make sure you link to the national website (www.huguenot.netnation.com) and then make sure the National website has a link to your State Society. We are in the process of looking at updating our National website so stay tuned!

*Leadership

I do not want to lose any State Societies. The ones that are struggling must have help to infuse new life in leaders and members. Let’s make a commitment to taking a leadership role in your State Society. Two years will fly by and you’ll be so glad that you were a part of making our Society strong. We are all sailing in this ship together! If you absolutely cannot take a leadership role at this time, try at least to get more involved. Volunteer for a special project or to help an officer or committee chair with a job. Only by pulling together can we move the ship forward!
Let me say something to all of you regarding accessibility to your President General— I want our State Societies to feel connected and valued by our National Society. I want your state members to know me and I want to know them. I realize that I need to be invited to your State meeting, but I want you all to know that if invited I’ll make every attempt to come. I’m a “cheap date” and do not want to cost your society undue bills for paying my way. I do have a modest travel budget, but I am also fortunate to have resources to be able to travel on my dime, not yours. Stay in touch with me through social media, emails and phone calls. I am here to serve all of you!

And finally, a word about our insignia – How many of you have your Huguenot insignia? Ours is sold by Hamilton Insignia (www.hamiltoninsignia.com) and is available on their website. Please purchase your National Huguenot Society insignia and wear it proudly to your meetings and other hereditary events where appropriate: wreath layings, genealogy conferences, funerals of members. See our Bylaws for protocol. The wearing of our beautiful insignia honors your ancestor and encourages comradery and pride in our Society. I know for a fact that the women in our group love “bling” and the men should have at least the miniature to wear to meetings at home, Congress and in DC in April. I’m appointing an Insignia Committee to review our insignia and make recommendations for new items and encourage the buying and wearing of our beautiful and meaningful insignia. (Maybe a new ship pin to raise money for our Endowment Fund?)

Thank you for your trust in me and I promise to do my very best for the NHS over the next two years. LET’S SAIL THIS SHIP!!

With Huguenot love and friendship,
Janet B. Walker, President General

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**PRESIDENT GENERAL’S PROJECT:**

**SHIP PINS!**

Honor your Huguenot ancestors who bravely crossed the seas for their religious freedoms and fund the National Huguenot Society’s Endowment Account!!

Because our theme for the next two years is *Membership - Friendship – Leadership* this ship pin is perfect!

The pin recalls the design of vessels in which our ancestors sailed to the colonies. This handsome pin is trimmed in our colors of French Blue, Gold and White with a unique tassel at the top of the main mast.

I encourage our members to support this project. Members will be able to wear the pin proudly anytime, anywhere off the ribbon; however, these pins are not insignia and can not be worn on the Society’s official ribbon. I hope all our members will wear one to their next Huguenot State Society meeting. And, perhaps wearing the pin elsewhere will spark interest and afford us the opportunity to enthusiastically spread the word of our beloved society to prospective members. Buy extras for gifts for family and friends!

These beautiful ship pins are just $30.00 each. Get yours today!

Mail a check for $34 each ($30 pin, $4 S/H made payable to: National Huguenot Society, Inc., to the National Huguenot Society 7340 Blanco Rd Suite 104 San Antonio, TX 78216-4970
NEWLY-ELECTED BOARD OF GENERAL OFFICERS FOR 2019-2021

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Second Vice President General
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Third Vice President General
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Chaplain General
The Rev. Joel Edward Strauch, CFA
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Corresponding Secretary General
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## COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2019-2021

### Awards for Scholarly Works
- **Kim Rogers Burdick**, Chairman
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- **Mary Margaret Buck**, First Vice President General
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- **Brenda Lynne Payne Rose**, Ph.D.
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### Bylaws
- **Barbara Chenault MacManus**, HPG, Chairman
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- **Janice Murphy Lorenz**, HPG
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- **Nancy Wright Brennan**, Genealogist General
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- **Joyce Ball Patton**
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- **Christine B. Crossan**, Treasurer General
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- **Sandra Hendrick Staley**, HPG
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- **Juanita Nichols Jones**
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- **Jeannine Sheldon Kallal**, HPG
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- **Nancy Ann Renfrow Schultz**, Organizing Sec. General
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### Program/Arrangements
- **Mary Margaret Buck**, First Vice President General
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### Publications
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### Scholarships
- **Neoma O’Kelley O’Brien**, HPG
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PIERRE CHASTAIN FAMILY ASSOCIATION 360TH BIRTHDAY REUNION

SUSANNE O’BRIEN

The Pierre Chastain Family Association reunion for the celebration of the 360th birthday of their ancestor, Pierre Chastain, was held in Richmond, Virginia, on 4-5 October 2019 at the four Points by Sheraton Hotel. About 90 family members attended the Reunion, and a family tree for each attendee was prepared, showing the early generations of their family from Pierre Chastain to his children and grandchildren.

The group was enlightened by several speakers, including a presentation about DNA research pertaining to the Alzheimer’s study for the Chastain family at Emory University. Ron Mitchell presented about French Land Grants–Holdings of the Chastains and Related Families, and Phyllis Mitchell presented an Orientation to Visiting Monacan Farm.

The group enjoyed a visit to the Monacan Farm where Pierre had his land grant and were able to see a grave marker for him which, although not his actual grave, was erected in his memory at the old cemetery on the property.

They also visited the newest version of the Monacan Episcopal Church, which has the 1895 church on the grounds of the newer church.

The ending banquet featured a performance by the Richmond Colonial Dance Club, who dressed in costumes and did several popular dances from the Colonial period of our ancestors.
CALL TO THE APRIL SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON
of
The National Huguenot Society
Wednesday 15 April 2020
Army & Navy Club
Farragut Square
Washington, DC

HUGUENOT MEMBERS AND GUESTS are cordially invited to attend the National Huguenot Society’s semi-annual meeting and luncheon in Washington, DC, at the Army & Navy Club, on 15 April 2020.

9:00 a.m. Registration

9:30 a.m. General Council Meeting (all welcome)

10:00 a.m. Board of General Officers Meeting (elected National Officers, Honorary Presidents General)

12:00 p.m. Luncheon for all members and guests. $55.00 per person.

A Necrology Service will be led by Chaplain general Rev. Joel E. Strauch.

Program: We are privileged and delighted to have Cathrine Davis, PhD. Student, Department of Anthropology, College of William & Mary, who will speak to us on her work with seals at Jamestowne, and her dissertation research in France. Her dissertation research is on late 17th to 18th century merchant networks between Southern France and Canada, as revealed through lead seal evidence from a wide range of sites in North America.

Benediction and Adjournment.

Please RSVP by 1 April 2020.

DON’T MISS THIS!! WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

REGISTRATION

NAME(S) ____________________________________________

GUEST(S) __________________________________________

STATE(S) __________________________________________

NUMBER ATTENDING @ $55/PERSON: _________

TOTAL ENCLOSED: $__________

CHECK NUMBER: __________

Send your registration form and check to:

Treasurer General Christine Crossan
903 Clydesdale Drive
Bear, DE 19701-2228
BOARD MINUTES
5 OCTOBER 2019

President General Sandra Staley called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. She appointed First VP General Janet Walker as Recording Secretary Pro Tem.

She introduced Honorary President Generals Barbara MacManus and Janice Lorenz, and Barbara and Nancy Brennan were recognized as Committee Chairmen.

Jane Power and Janet Walker were recognized as Founders of other societies.

The minutes of the previous Board meeting were published in The Cross of Languedoc and were accepted.

Treasurer General Jane Power gave a report about the Arkansas Treasurer Mary Askew who wants a refund for deceased and dropped members who inadvertently had paid dues. Mary provided documentation showing that this is true and accurate. Mary asks for $910 in Arkansas for overpaid dues for 2010-2018. Motion to reimburse them. Seconded. Discussion. Motion amended to say “by payment or credit.” The amendment was verified. Passed.

HPG Janice Lorenz gave the Nominating Committee Report. It will be voted on at the Congress.

Assistant Counselor General Cathy Paunov discussed the definition of our quorum and recommends moving that part of our Bylaws to Standing Rules. She also recommends changing the majority of states needed as 8 instead of 10, or a percentage, or a majority of State Societies. Organizing Secretary General Nancy Schultz recommends cleaning up the section in the Bylaws on Credentials. Nancy Brennan and Barbara MacManus remembered lowering the threshold of number of states represented several times in the past. They also suggested having a representative from our MAL. That person should be able to vote in the interest of the MAL.

Registrar General Bill Buell stated that there are currently 25 active state chapters. He said four (4) are in trouble: Maine (15 members), NE (12 members), OK (16 members), NM (7 members); and two others were mentioned: NH (18 members) and NV (13 members). Janice Lorenz will make a chart.

OSG Nancy Schultz reported that WI and IL have been meeting together. The WI Society wants to dissolve. Discussion regarding no mention of merging chapters in our Bylaws. There are 25 members in WI but no officers. It was moved that WI be allowed to dissolve. Seconded. Motion passed.

Chaplain General and Finance Committee Chairman Joel Strauch mentioned the transition for Treasurer General. PG Sandra will talk to him after the meeting.

Adjourned by PG Sandra Staley at 9:33 AM.

Janet Walker, Recording Secretary Pro Tem
Call to Order

President General Sandra Staley called the meeting to order at 10:35AM.

Chaplain General Joel Strauch gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Janice Lorenz, Huguenot Pledge to the Flag led by Mary Margaret Buck, and Salute to Huguenot Flag and Ritual led by Nancy Schultz.

President General Staley welcomed Delegates and guests. Honored Guests Honorary Presidents General Barbara MacManus and Janice Lorenz were recognized. State Presidents Mary Margaret Buck, MS, Nancy Schultz, IL, Martha Ann Whitt, AL, and Marjorie Wilson, GA were introduced.

President General Staley introduced the Executive Board 1st VP General Janet Walker, 2nd VP General Mary Margaret Buck, Chaplain General Joel Strauch, Corresponding Secretary General Christine Crossan, Treasurer General Jane Power, Registrar General Bill Buell, Organizing Secretary General Nancy Schultz and Genealogist General Nancy Brennan.

President General Staley appointed Jo Lee Potts, Barbara MacManus and Nancy Schultz to read and approve the minutes for the meeting.

National Credentials Report: Nancy Schultz, Chairman, presented the 84th Congress Credentials Report and reported a quorum of 10 states present.

With a quorum present Congress was declared open.

First Vice President General Janet Walker presented the Standing Rules for Annual Congress for review and adoption. After reading the rules VP Walker moved that the rules be adopted. Barbara MacManus and Joel Strauch seconded the motion.

The delegates voted to approve and adopt the rules.

The minutes from April 2019 Congress were published and approved.

Reports of General Officers

President General Sandra Staley reviewed the Theme of her term in office reminding members to remember our Origins by finding and honoring our Huguenot Ancestors. She reported on the National and State lineage society meetings she attended as a representative of the National Huguenot Society.

First Vice President General Janet Walker’s report was differed till later.

Second Vice President General Mary Margaret Buck submitted a written report. She thanked Bill Buell and Janice Lorenz for their assistance with the directory and reported that a thumb drive of the completed directory was sent to the President General the first week of June. Guidelines for Celebrating The Traditions of the National Huguenot Society by Mary Margaret Buck and Janice Murphy Lorenz has been published and is available for sale for $14.00 including shipping.
Chaplain General Joel Strauch reported on activities detailed in the written report he submitted.

Corresponding Secretary General Christine Crossan submitted a written report.

Organizing Secretary General Nancy Schultz submitted a written report on the work that has been done working with the Huguenot Society of Wisconsin over the last two years.

Registrar General Bill Buell submitted a written report detailing changes in membership, sales and requests for assistance received from 10 April 2019 - 4 October 2019. He reported a total membership of 1526.

Treasurer General Jane Power presented detailed financial records for 2018, 2019 and reconstructed records for 2017. Details of the Restricted Funds Accounts were reported and a correction made that the Basis Amount of the Endowment Fund should be $10000.00 with an additional donation of $534.00 made this administration.

Treasurer General Jane Power presented the 2020 budget and noted that it includes funds for redoing the website and to provide online access to Quicken for the Treasurer General. President General Staley personally thanked Jane and Barbara MacManus for the two years of work that was done to get records straight. Jane Power moved to adopt the 2020 budget. The motion was seconded by Bill Buell. The motion was passed.

Genealogist General Nancy Brennan reported that she provided magazines for the Chastain Family Reunion. The Texas Genealogical Lock-In is scheduled in October 2019.

Committee Reports

Publications Chairman Janice Lorenz reported on the *The Cross of Languedoc*. She has been assisting the 2nd Vice President General with the draft *Membership Directory*. The Directory will be approximately 225 pages and will be sold thru the San Antonio office.

President General Staley thanked Bill Buell and Nancy Brennan for the work they do in the San Antonio office and asked them to give a brief rundown on the operations of the office.

Bill reported sales included 5 Registers of Qualified Ancestors, 7 Consolidated Updates, 15-16 Charms, Tote Bags and 8 Scarves.

Honorary President General and Assistant Treasurer General Barbara MacManus reported on status of Members at Large and Canada Members. Since October 2018, 8 members have transferred to MAL and 1 MAL has transferred to a State Member Society. Of the 147 on the MAL roster, 20 have not paid 2018/19 dues and need to be dropped. There are 7 on the Canada roster; only 4 have paid 2019 dues.

New Business

Treasurer General Jane Power has been contacted by Mrs. Askew, Arkansas State Treasurer. A review of 2010-2018 Arkansas books has found that $910.00 has been paid to The National Society in error. The Executive Board moved that The National Society reimburse or credit, at the discretion of the National Treasurer, Arkansas $910.00 provided that Arkansas member death information for this time is substantiated. The motion passed.

Organizing Secretary General Nancy Schultz reported that the Executive Board recommends that the Huguenot Society of Wisconsin be allowed to disband effective December 31, 2019. The motion passed.

Assistant Counselor General Cathy Paunov recommends creation of a By Laws Committee to consider changes in By-Laws and Standing Rules that will move items such as Quorum Requirement to Standing Rules.
Reports of State Societies

Alabama Society submitted a written report that was read by President Martha Ann Whitt

Georgia Society submitted a written report that was read by President Marjorie N. Wilson

Illinois Society submitted a written report that was read by President Nancy Schultz

Mississippi Society submitted a written report that was presented by President Mary Margaret Buck.

Tennessee Society President Noella Mae Oberlin submitted a written report.

Texas Society President Nancy Watson submitted a written report that was read by State Treasurer Kathy Totten.

Virginia Society report was submitted by Joel Strauch. Virginia Society will host the 2020 Annual Congress in Charlottesville Virginia. The meeting will be held Tuesday, October 5, 2020 at the Farmington Country Club and include tours of Monticello and the historic Farmington Clubhouse.

First Vice President General Janet Walker presented a Certificate of Appreciation to The Florida Huguenot Society for the 2019 Annual Congress. On behalf of the National Society, Mrs. Walker moved that $100.00 be donated to the Morse Museum to honor the Florida State Society. Florida President Jo Lee Potts accepted the award on behalf of the Florida Society.

Election of Officers

Janice Lorenz gave the report of the Nominating Committee. In addition to Mrs. Lorenz the committee consisted of Nancy Watson, TX, Jo Lee Potts, FL, Kathy Machmer, AZ, and Janet Walker, GA. The committee presented the following Slate of General Officers:

President General: Janet Walker (GA)
1st Vice President General: Mary Margaret Buck (MS)
2nd Vice President General: Jo Lee Potts (FL)
3rd Vice President General: Marjorie Wilson (GA)
Chaplain General: Joel Strauch (VA)
Recording Secretary General: Noella Mae Oberlin (TN)
Corresponding Secretary General: Kathy Machmer (AZ)
Organizing Secretary General: Nancy Schultz (IL)
Treasurer General: Christine Crossan (DE)
Registrar General: William Buell (TX)
Counselor General: Cathy Paunov (FL)
Genealogist General: Nancy Brennan (TX)
Historian General: Martha Ann Higginbotham Whitt (AL)

There were no nominations from the floor. Cathy Paunov moved that the Committee Report be accepted and the Board be approved by acclamation. Motion Passed and the Officers, as presented, were elected.

Sandra Staley thanked The Florida Society again for their work.

Florida Society announced that David Bahn had ordered pins to be sold by Florida Society to benefit their scholarship fund. The Pins are available for $4.00.

The 85th Huguenot Society Social Event will be April 15, 2020 at the Army Navy Club in Washington DC.

Honorary President General Barbara MacManus installed the newly elected officers.
Mrs. Staley presented Mrs. Walker the President General Insignia.

President General Walker moved that Sandra Staley be made Honorary President General. Janice Lorenz seconded. The motion passed.

President General Janet Walker spoke briefly on her thoughts on focus of her administration. Membership is the life blood of the organization. We should invite friends to meetings, spread the word about our organization and increase membership so we don’t lose any more State Societies. Increase the effective use of social media such as Facebook with updated public and members only information. Update the National Website and hand out State Brochures. Wear Insignia that can be purchased thru Hamilton. Mrs. Walker hopes to be invited to State Society meetings to get to know our membership.

Editor Janice Lorenz requested that written reports be emailed to her in Microsoft Word or .pdf for inclusion in The Cross.

Mary Margaret Buck reminded members that the new GUIDEBOOK will be available for purchase through the San Antonio Office.

Chaplain General Joel Strauch offered a blessing over our meal and the meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:20PM.

The meeting resumed at 1:30

Chaplain General Joel Strauch held a Memorial Service for the deceased members.

Florida President Jo Lee Potts presented a program: The Mereau ‘You Deserve’/’You Have Earned.’ The Mereau was a coin carried by the Huguenot. It was provided to members to identify them as a way to distinguish them from Catholic spies. The Florida Society presented all officers and delegates attending the meeting with a commemorative Mereau.

Officers, delegates and guests joined in singing “Blest Be the Ties that Bind”

President General Janet Walker adjourned the 84th National Congress.

Katherine Pace Totten, Recording Secretary Pro Tempore

♥♥♥♥♥

REPORTS OF GENERAL OFFICERS

Second Vice President General
October 2019

Since being elected at the Congress held in Charleston this officer has worked on putting together a Membership Directory requested by President General Sandra Staley. After making telephone calls, e-mailing, double-checking, and going through records a thumb drive containing the 2019 Directory was sent the first week of June 2019 to the President General. I thank Registrar Bill Buell in his sending the national membership list, the states who sent their lists, and Janice Lorenz who worked hard helping me with this project.

A book, GUIDELINES For Celebrating the Traditions of the National Huguenot Society, by Janice Lorenz and myself, is completed. It is hoped that the information compiled by Janice will be a great help to our members. Presentation of the GUIDELINES book was made to President General Sandra Staley at Congress 2019 in Orlando.

Madame President General, it has been an honor to serve in your administration.

Mary Margaret Buck, outgoing Second Vice President General
Registrar General  
October 2019

During the reporting period:

34 New Member applications were approved and zero rejected.
3 Transfers, 2 Reinstatements and 2 Supplementals were approved.
18 Insignia orders were approved, and 6 Search & Copy/Scan orders were filled.
39 Telephonic Queries to the National Office were responded to, and 51 Email Queries were responded to.
36 New Members have been added, 14 Deceased, 11 Dropped or Resigned, for a Net Gain of 11 members.
The current member count stands at 1526.
3 New Ancestors have been added, and 2 Ancestors have been revised.

During the reporting period, the following items were sold:

3 Registers of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors, 2012, 5th ed
3 Consolidated Updates
1 Charm
3 Tote Bags
8 Scarves

$2,500 collected by the Registrar General for sales, and from dues and fees, has been deposited to the NHS treasury.

William Collins Buell V, Registrar General

Chaplain General  
October 2019

I continue to enjoy participating in our ministry on behalf of the members of the National Huguenot Society. Among our activities since our last meeting are:

• Receiving notifications of the death of members and information on the next of kin; our reported necrology totals 14 since our last General Council meeting in April 2019;
• Writing personal notes of condolence to the families of our members;
• Leading worship for our memorial services for the Huguenot Faithfully Departed, at our annual meetings and congresses, with an emphasis on selecting liturgies and music that reflect our Reformed faith;
• Acting as a resource for the state societies, relating to activities of their chaplains;
• Continuing reading books on European and American history, particularly: French Blood in America by Lucian Fosdick, Over the Edge of the World by Laurence Bergreen, The Second Mountain, by David Brooks; Turkey and America: East & West – Where the Twain Meet, by Phil Williams;
• As Chair of the Finance Committee, responding to our President General’s request to assist in the oversight of the Society’s finances by assisting in the transition to our new Treasurer; following existing investment policy, developing plan to invest financial resources to support the mission of the Society;
• Supporting the activities of the Huguenot Society of Virginia, having served as Treasurer, and currently as First Vice President; implemented new Investment Policy, managing the resources of the Society with returns of greater than 4.5% over first ten months of implementation; initiating the transfer of members from the Huguenot Society of DC and welcoming members of the Virginia Huguenot Society to our state Society events;
• Initiating planning for our state Society to host the 2020 Annual Congress for the Huguenot Society of Virginia; plan: Congress to be held in Charlottesville on Tuesday, October 5, 2020, at the Farmington Country Club, including tours of Monticello and the historic Farmington Clubhouse;
• I appreciate the help and support that our officers and members have extended to me over the past year and look forward to continuing to serve the members of the National Huguenot Society.

Faithfully yours,
Rev. Joel E. Strauch, Chaplain General
Corresponding Secretary General
October 2019

Since my last report of August 26, 2018, I emailed Dues Notices from the Treasurer General, notices regarding the April Board Meeting from the President General, and notices of the General Congress to all State Presidents. I have kept the database of State Presidents up-to-date according to correspondence received from them. I have kept the associated notebook current for transfer to my successor and will provide electronic copies of relevant databases, etc., to her.

Christine Crossan, outgoing Corresponding Secretary General

Honorary President General/Assistant Treasurer General Report
October 2019

This officer has served as Assistant Treasurer General for the last eight and a half years. She has been responsible for sending dues billings to the Members-at-Large of the National Society, collecting their dues, depositing the dues collected into National’s designated bank account, reporting collections and forwarding copies of deposit documents to the Treasurer General, coordinating the Member-at-Large roster and mailing list with the Registrar General’s records, acting as liaison between the National Society and its Members-at-Large, and maintaining file copies of the first page of MAL new member applications and applications for transfer, and reporting MAL address changes and death reports to the appropriate General Officers as she becomes aware of them.

Member-at-Large activity from 1 October 2018 through 30 September 2019 included eight transfers from State Member Societies to Member-at-Large status, one transfer from MAL to a State Member Society, and seven new member MAL applications. Seven MAL members were reported deceased, dues are waived for one MAL member in accordance with the National Society’s Bylaws, and two dues billings were undeliverable for reasons unknown. The Member-at-Large roster currently stands at 147; however, 20 of those have not paid dues for 2018 or 2019, and stand to be officially dropped.

Additionally, of the nine Canadian Member-at-Large last reported, one has passed away, and the dues billing was reported undeliverable for one, leaving seven on the roster. Only four of the remaining seven have paid 2019 dues.

Serving the Members-at-Large and the National Huguenot Society in the capacity of Assistant Treasurer General has certainly been most rewarding; however, it is the wish of this officer to be relieved of the responsibilities of the position of Assistant Treasurer General at the conclusion of this Congress. The dual roles of Assistant Treasurer General and Honorary President General have afforded this officer the pleasure and benefits of working closely with the President General, the Treasurer General, and the Registrar General in particular, but also with others on the Board of General Officers as well as several State Member Societies’ officers.

This is not to say that this officer is withdrawing from being available whenever she can be of service; she expects to continue being an active participant at National.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Chenault MacManus, Honorary President General, Assistant Treasurer General

STATE MEMBER SOCIETY REPORTS

Editor’s Note: Please email your report to me at janicemlorenz@gmail.com if you want it to appear in The Cross!

Delaware
October 2019

The spring meeting of the Delaware Huguenot Society was held on Saturday, May 18, 2019, from 1 to 3 pm. at Winterthur Museum in Greenville, Delaware (www.winterthur.org ) where we were given a private tour of HB duPont’s Huguenot
Silver Collection. Our tour guides were excellent, and we were impressed both by the collection (which included a piece of silver made by Paul Revere) and our guides’ in-depth knowledge of both Huguenot history, their stylistic preferences, and their connection to this historic craft both in France and in the American colonies.

Our summer meeting of the Delaware Huguenot Society was held at the Hale Byrnes House, near Newark, Delaware 19713 on Saturday, July 20, 2019, beginning at 5:30 pm. A buffet dinner was followed by an excellent talk by National Chaplain General Joel Strauch, who came from his home in Charlottesville, Virginia. Joel’s talk, entitled “Who’s Who in the Crusades: Pilgrims, Crusaders & Templars” was very well-received. He noted that since many Knights Templars were French, some of our Huguenot members may also be descended from the Templars.

On August 13, 2019, our past Chapter President, William Morris Brown, Jr. died. Bill was 94 years old. As a young man he served with the 8th Air Force in the 36th Bomb Squadron, completing over thirty missions. After the war, he worked in the Textile Fibers division of the DuPont Company for over 40 years. After his retirement, he spent many years as a much respected Certified Genealogist.

Officers for the upcoming year 2020 remain the same:
Kim Burdick, President
Kai Lassen, Vice-President/Registrar
Christine Crossan, Treasurer/Secretary

Programs for 2020 will focus on the Huguenots in South Africa. The first will be a wine and cheese party, which will be held at the New Garden township Lyceum, on Sunday afternoon, March 29, 2020. Our speakers will be Christine & Robin Crossan talking about the genesis of wine culture by Huguenots in South Africa.

Our fall program will be held on September 23, 2020, at Chanticleer, an arboretum in Wayne, Pennsylvania. Chanticleer, once the Rosengarten estate, http://www.chanticleergarden.org/ Currently actively collaborates with Cape Town, South Africa’s University of Stellenbosch Botanical Garden.

Kim Burdick, President

Georgia
October 2019

Madame President General and fellow Huguenots:

This officer was privileged to attend with Janet Butler Walker the National BOM meeting in Washington, DC in April of 2019.

The Huguenot Society of Georgia meets in the Fall at the Marietta Country Club in Kennesaw and in the Spring at the Idle Hour Country Club in Macon. At our recent meeting the Society greeted 27 guests. The Society currently has 140 members and 55 prospective members. The Society awarded a scholarship to Will Bowman, a student at Auburn University who is a grandson of one of our members, Sara Sims.

The society currently has a frequently visited website. Our 2nd Vice President John Trussell has recommended that the website be updated to include information that would be more helpful to visitors in their research. One article he mentioned was “How to Find Your Huguenot Ancestors.” The Society’s website is linked to the National Huguenot Society website.
Our Society’s focus during our last two administrations was to donate Huguenot Research and History books totaling over $10,000 to local libraries and archives across the state which also included the Register of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors of The National Huguenot Society. The Society also created a tri-fold brochure for display in the libraries titled “Are You a Huguenot?”

It is an honor to serve. Thank you.

Marjorie N Wilson, President

**Illinois**

The latter half of 2019 has been very busy in Illinois. As per usual, many interested prospective members emerge at the Illinois Heritage Alliance in September in beautiful Peoria, Illinois. We currently have 94 members and expect several transfer members from the Wisconsin Society. We welcome recent new members Deborah Domain, Lisa Namie, and Catherine “Kitty” Humphrey.

President Nancy Schultz attended the 84th National Congress in Orlando, Florida this past October. Nancy is pleased to serve the National Huguenot Society as Organizing Secretary General. Plans are under way to welcome the President General in May 2020 for her official visit to the Huguenot Society of Illinois.

The November meeting was held at Jilly’s Café a darling and delicious French restaurant in Evanston. Attendance was excellent and the program was on the Mereaux Tokens, inspired by the special program given at Congress by Jo Lee Potts. Our thanks go to the Mereaux token expert in our National Society, Marshall Brewton, of Florida. He generously shared his knowledge and program material.

**Mississippi**

The Huguenot Society welcomed two new members, Carla Riley and Dena Ward, in April. There are several prospective members who were invited to our Fall Meeting.

We have had interesting programs during this administration. One was on our Vice President William Prestage’s family. An indirect relative of his was Thomas Hutchins, Geographer for the United States, who is written about in the historical novel *THE PIONEERS* by David McCullough. The Huguenot ancestor is Antoine Pintard. We have also had programs on The French Protestant Huguenot Church in Charleston, South Carolina and the Huguenot Window in Washington Chapel at Valley Forge.
The Fall Meeting of the Huguenot Society of Mississippi was held November 1, 2019 at AC’s Steak House in Hernando, Mississippi. There were 14 attending, including several prospective members. Since that time Norma Biggers has been welcomed as a new member. The program was about Marie Dentire (1495-1561). She was a vital woman of the Reformation.

President Mary Margaret Buck brought the *GUIDELINES For Celebrating the Traditions of The National Huguenot Society*, a new publication which she and Janice Murphy Lorenz recently finished, to the meeting. This is a reference handbook which provides guidance in conducting Huguenot meetings, selected religious observances and has information about the National Huguenot Society.

Some genealogical tidbits were shared by members Bettye Van Vulpen and Randall Chandler.

A report on the NHS Congress held in Orlando, Florida was made. It was announced that Mary Margaret Buck is the new 1st Vice President General for NHS. Olivia Chandler was introduced as the new President General for The Huguenot Society of the Founders of Manakin in the Colony of Virginia.

The 15 April 2020 meeting in Washington, DC was announced, as was the next NHS Congress in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Mary Margaret Buck, President

**Missouri**

October 2019

The Missouri Society held its election in June 2019, electing the following officers. Included here is their contact information.

**OFFICERS May 2019 – May 2021**

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Historian Anne Sizemore  
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Respectfully submitted,  
Sara Branton, MO Treasurer
Memories of Congress
Orlando 2019

We enjoyed a great turnout and good times at our Congress in Orlando, Florida in October of 2019!

NHS board members being sworn in. L-R: Nancy Wright Brennan, Genealogist General; Catherine Paunov, Counselor General; Martha Ann Whitt, Historian General; William C. Buell V, Registrar General; Christine Crossan, Treasurer General; Nancy Schultz, Organizing Secretary General; and Rev. Joel Strauch, CFA, Chaplain General.

Tiffany Art at the Morse Museum. Courtesy Sandra Staley.

Rising Counselor General Catherine Paunov, Peggy Stottmann, rising President General Janet Walker, and outgoing President General Sandra Staley, now an Honorary President General, preparing for their 2019 Congress meeting.

NHS board members being sworn in. L-R: Nancy Schultz, Organizing Secretary General; Marjorie Wilson, Third Vice President General; Barbara MacManus, Honorary President General, who is swearing in the group; Jo Lee Potts, Second Vice President General; Mary Margaret Buck, First Vice President General; and Janet Butler Walker, President General.
We enjoyed a great turnout and good times at our Congress in Orlando, Florida in October of 2019! Cathy Paunov as master of ceremonies of our banquet.
North Carolina
October 2019

The North Carolina society held our annual meeting on March 23, 2019 at the Chapel Hill Country Club, in Chapel Hill, NC, attended by 58 members and guests. Historian Lowell Hoffman delivered a program “Wilkes & Liberty, the Bill of Rights & the Rest of the Story.” The North Carolina county of Wilkes was named for the English political radical John Wilkes (1725-1797), Member of Parliament who supported the rights of the American colonists. Isaac Barre (1726-1802), a Huguenot descendant and fellow Member of Parliament, joined Wilkes in opposition unfair taxation of the American colonies. Barre called the colonists who rebelled against the taxes “Sons of Liberty,” which made him a champion to our emerging nation. Today many place names in our country commemorate Wilkes and Barre.

President Elaine Baldasare introduced eight news members in attendance who had been admitted since our April 2018 meeting. Each new member was presented with a copy of A History of the Huguenot Society of North Carolina, by Roger Kammerer. In other business, members voted to change our Standing Rules to eliminate dues for members reaching 90 years of age with 5 or more years of membership. The State Society will be responsible for paying National dues for these individuals. Finally, new officers for the 2019-2021 term were installed: President, Ann Mueller; Vice President, Edie Cox; Chaplain, Mary Ann Hepler; Registrar, Elaine Baldasare; Treasurer, Elaine Baldasare; Secretary, Jane Thomas; Historian, Suzanne Sauter.

Ann Mueller, President

Pennsylvania
October 2019

The new officers for the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania include Peter M. Adams, Peteradams484@gmail.com, President; Bonnie V. Watkins, Vice President; John W. Beitel, frane7@epix.net as Treasurer; Melanie a. Schaeffer, maschaeffer@comcast.net, Registrar; Carolyn Holt, clholt614@gmail.com, Corresponding Secretary; and Rev. Ames as Chaplain General.

Tennessee

Tennessee President Noella Oberlin presided over the Huguenot Society of Tennessee meeting on November 2, 2019 at the Tea Cottage in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Key guests included the National Huguenot Society’s President General, Janet Butler Walker, and Third Vice President, Marjorie Wilson. Mrs. Walker shared her vision and goals for the next two years: Membership, Friendship, and Leadership.

Ms. Oberlin announced that the Mayflower’s 400th anniversary
celebration is next year. Events to commemorate this anniversary will be held on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean and will tell the story of the *Mayflower* Pilgrims and their journey from Leiden, Holland and Plymouth, England to modern-day Provincetown and, finally, Plymouth Colony in 1620. Likewise, on March 18, 2020, the Huguenot Society of Tennessee will be celebrating its 60th anniversary. There are some Huguenot ancestors that came over on the Mayflower. These will be discussed at the Spring 2020 meeting to be held on April 4, 2020 at the Tea Cottage at 11:00 am, located at 2233 Hickory Valley Road, Chattanooga, TN 37421.

The Huguenot Society of Tennessee meets twice per year to celebrate its heritage. Anyone with a Huguenot ancestor may request additional information or make reservations for the next meeting by sending an email to huguenotsocietytn@hotmail.com.

**Texas**

The Huguenot Society of Texas elected new officers in February.

President – Nancy Watson
Vice President – Sandra Staley
Secretary – Ann Oppenheimer
Registrar – Ron Powell
Chaplain – Susanne O’Brien
Treasurer – Katherine Totten

Barbara MacManus retired as treasurer since 2001, and we have a new treasurer, Katherine Totten. Thank you, Katherine, for taking over the job. We will miss Barbara from that job very much!!!!

Nancy Watson, President

The La Rochelle Chapter in Dallas is working on trying to reorganize. They are planning on having a meeting in November. There is a new slate of officers.

President – Barbara MacManus
Vice President – Vacant
Chaplain – Sandra Staley
Registrar – Ron Powell
Treasurer – Jerry A. Chenault
Secretary – Carolyn Sue Chenault

**Virginia**

To All,

We have finally reconciled our roster for HSV. We’ve added our newest member, Bonnie Henn, and are working on the transfer of Pat Taeger. Thanks to Susan, Virginia Crossing in Richmond is booked for our meeting on 21 March 2020. We are working on securing the pastor of the church at Manakin to give a presentation on the history of the settlement as our program for that meeting.

Finally, the National Congress is all set for October at Farmington Country Club in Charlottesville, thanks very much to Joel Strauch. To avoid higher costs for a UVA football weekend in Charlottesville, it will be held on Monday-Wednesday, 5-7 October, with a Welcome Reception hosted by Joel and Catherine Strauch on Monday 5 October, a business meeting on the morning of Tuesday 6 October, a tour of Monticello in the afternoon, and a banquet that evening. A breakfast will be held on Wednesday morning 7 October, after which attendees will depart.

Cheers,
Richard Wright, President


Wisconsin

On 7 December 2019, the venue in the Grand Ball Room of The Wisconsin Club, Milwaukee was the host of the celebration of a Joint Hereditary Luncheon Chaired by Wisconsin OPFA Gov., Thomas Pelham Curtis, Huguenot Society of Wisconsin Secretary-Treasurer William Tracy Erbes, and Past Huguenot Society of Wisconsin and Illinois Huguenot James F. Barr. 40 hereditary leaders and guests attended.

This marks the last event of the Wisconsin Huguenot Society, which has been disbanded in an orderly fashion by this officer at its own request, by vote at NHS Congress 2019. Several hereditary society leaders from throughout the state were present, including NHS Honorary President General the Rev’d Travis Talmadge du Priest, Ph D. who served as Chaplain for this, the largest hereditary joint meeting ever held in Wisconsin.

The Speaker was the Hon. Aaron A. Barlow, Esq., Gov., IL SCW. Honored dignitaries of other societies, included were National Huguenot Secretary General Nancy Renfrow Schultz, and Ruth Anderson, Registrar, Secretary and Treasurer of the Wisconsin Huguenot Society (now disbanded).

We certainly hope to see that our Wisconsin Society members transfer their membership to the Illinois Society, or to Member at Large membership.

James F. Barr, President

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards for Scholarly Works
No report at this time.

Bylaws
No report applicable.

Credentials
Report given at Congress 2019.

Finance
Report given at Congress 2019, hereby updated as follows:

The resources of The National Huguenot Society have been compiled and reviewed by the new Treasurer General, who is responsible for the maintenance of the accounts of the Society under the bylaws of the Society and with the guidance of the Finance Committee and the Board of General Officers of the Society.

The Treasurer General is engaged in enhancing our control and reporting by using appropriate accounting systems to effectively record the transactions of the Society and reporting them in financial statements quarterly.

In compiling and presenting the resources of the Society the Treasurer General and the Chair of the Finance Committee have grouped the investments by function:

- Scholarship funds $236,527.42
- General purpose funds $30,037.61
- Operating funds $270,024.48
- Total assets $536,589.51
While the investments of the Society are held in liquid and illiquid short and low maturity instruments, we envision transitioning to a balanced portfolio that reflects the investment policy of the Society with higher income and the potential for increased returns, while appropriately controlling investment risks.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Crossan, Treasurer General, and Joel E. Strauch, CFA®, Chair, Finance Committee

**Genealogy**
Report given at Congress 2019.

**Membership**
No report.

**Programs & Arrangements**
See Call to April meeting and Call to Congress 2020.

**Publications**
We are pleased to announce the publication of a brief but important new book entitled GUIDELINES For Celebrating the Traditions of The National Huguenot Society, by Mary Margaret Buck and Janice Murphy Lorenz.

It is a valuable handbook for our use at Huguenot business meetings and social events, explaining the practice of our meetings, selected religious observances of NHS, and NHS ceremonies. It is available for purchase at our San Antonio office and on Amazon.com.

Meanwhile, we are pleased to have enjoyed another year of publishing *The Cross of Languedoc*. We have been blessed with the submission of numerous articles and items which our membership has benefitted from and enjoyed. Deep thanks to all of you for your phenomenal support and for the pleasure of allowing me to continue serving you as Editor.

Janice Murphy Lorenz, HPG, Chairman

**Scholarships**
Reports annually in Fall edition of *The Cross*.

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**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Huguenot Collection Books & Archives Review**
Reports only when necessary.

**Insignia**
No report.

**Publicity/Website/Internet**
*No report, but the Editor can assure you that the President General, the Treasurer General, and several other knowledgeable members are working toward updating our website’s capabilities, and we may all stay tuned for an update of their progress.*

**Youth**
No report at this time.
85th CONGRESS 2020
SAVE THE DATE!
5-7 October 2020
Charlottesville, Virginia

Our Huguenot Society of Virginia has organized a remarkable 85th Congress for us in gorgeous Charlottesville, Virginia. Thanks to our Chaplain General, Joel Strauch (VA), we will be staying at the gorgeous and charming Farmington Country Club. The meetings and organized activities will span from 5-7 October 2020 in various locations. WARNING: The fall foliage should be beautiful, and the area is blanketed with historical sites of great interest to American history, so you will probably need to stay for an extended visit!

Here is a brief summary of the planned events.

5 October
6:30 p.m.  Welcoming Cocktail Party at the home of Joel and Catherine Strauch
5 October
7:30 p.m.  Informal Dinner at The Grill at Farmington Country Club
6 October
9:00 a.m.  NHS Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. Tour of the Farmington Clubhouse
10:30 a.m. Congress meeting convenes
12:00 p.m. Luncheon and Memorial Service
1:30 p.m.  Tours of Monticello

For more detail, see the lovely graphic image of Monticello, advertising the event.

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FAREWELL TO OUR DEPARTED HUGUENOT FRIENDS
Since our last publication, we have said a fond farewell to the following beloved members.

Arkansas
Margaret Jo Thornton Dill

Delaware
William Brown, Jr.

Florida
Cora May Abbott
Virginia Chase
Charlie Garrison
Audrey Pultz Peacock

Georgia
Glenn Buren Harkins, Jr.

Indiana
Ralph E. Baumheckel

Members at Large
Rev. Charles John Duly
James Dewey O’Brien
Edward Sebree

Mississippi
Thomas Wayne Hallum

Missouri
Rosemary Sullivan Bane

Oklahoma
Ethel Ilene Koger
Mary Loraine Shimp

Pennsylvania
Barbara Rawding Smith

Texas
Jo Anne Millar Cox

Texas Friend
Kathryn Elaine Smith (Jane Power’s sister)

Washington
Donald Dazey
Kathryn Elaine Smith
SAVE THE DATE

2020 Annual Congress of the National Huguenot Society
Farmington Country Club, Charlottesville, Virginia

October 5th to 7th

AT MONTICELLO

Event Schedule

Welcoming Cocktail Party, 10/5, 6:30 pm at the home of Joel and Catherine Strauch

Informal Dinner 7:30 pm at The Grill at Farmington Country Club

NHS Board Meeting, 10/6, 9:00 am

Tour of historical Farmington Clubhouse, 10/6, 10:00 am

NHS Annual Congress convenes: 10/6, 10:30 am

Luncheon and Memorial Service, 10/6, noon

Tours of Monticello, 10/6, 1:30 pm

Banquet in Jefferson Room, Farmington CC, 6:30 pm, Speaker: Susan Stein, Richard Gilder Senior Curator, Special Projects, Monticello/Thomas Jefferson Foundation, Inc.

Susan Stein is Senior Curator and Vice President of Museum Programs at Monticello. Her accomplishments include the landmark 1993 catalogue and exhibition *The Worlds of Thomas Jefferson at Monticello*, which returned over 150 works of art to Monticello. Her research interests have focused on the culture of Monticello, especially the decorative arts and the art acquired by Jefferson in France. She is working on an exhibition about Jefferson’s important influence on American art and architecture.

Susan Stein will present: Thomas Jefferson, Francophile.

SUSAN R. STEIN
A FOND FAREWELL TO OUR BELOVED SILVER AWARD-WINNING FORMER COUNSELOR GENERAL, JAMES DEWEY O’BRIEN

On June 18, 2019, our Huguenot community and the greater patriotic and hereditary society community suffered the loss of one of their greatest and most beloved members, DC Society member James Dewey O’Brien. He was 102 years old at the time of his death, and at that time remained in full possession of his formidable intellect and his desire to help and assist others. He leaves behind our beloved Honorary President General Neoma O. O’Brien, four children, four grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Dewey, as he was called by his friends, delivered critical legal services for The National Huguenot Society time and again, not just during his long tenure as our Counselor General, but even up to the time of his death. He was a member of many genealogical, patriotic and hereditary organizations, including but not limited to the Sons of the American Revolution, First Families of Connecticut, the Crown of Charlemagne, and Early Quakers. His steady and cheerful good counsel and advice was treasured by all, and it was so vital to us that we awarded him the Silver Medal for his outstanding and longstanding service to NHS. Always practical and knowledgeable about an array of subjects, he was an avid emailer and often shared and commented upon wonderful cultural items with his correspondents.

Having served with distinction in everything he did in life. This includes his service in the U. S. Navy, during which he was awarded the Bronze Star, his public service work in Louisiana, and his long career as Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the U.S. Department of Justice Tax Division. He also authored two books, “Our Colonial Ancestors,” and an autobiography, “An American Experience, The First Ninety-Three Years.”

We all mourn with inexpressible sadness the loss of such a revered and honored member. He made a difference in all of his endeavors, and we will never forget him.

Janice Murphy Lorenz, J.D., Editor
As Huguenot descendants, we are all too familiar with the phrase “St. Bartholomew Day’s Massacre.” That tragic event took place on 24 Aug 1572, St. Bartholomew’s Day. The main instigator of the crime was the Queen Mother Catherine de’ Medici. She was concerned with the influence that Admiral Gaspard de Coligny had over her son King Charles IX. De Coligny was urging Charles to go to war with Spain and Catherine tried to have him assassinated to prevent that. The attempt failed although the Admiral was badly wounded. The Queen then sought to massacre all the Huguenot leaders.

The attack began at daybreak on Sunday and continued in Paris until September 17th. Once the violence started it was impossible to stop the populace. The terror spread from Paris to the provinces until October 3rd. There was resistance. The Duc de Longueville in Picardie, Chabot-Charny (son of Admiral Chabot) at Dijon, the Comte de Matignon (1525-97) in Normandie and other provincial governors refused to authorize the massacres. It was estimated that 50,000 were killed during those almost 6 weeks. The Queen Mother received congratulations from all the Catholic powers. Pope Gregory XIII commanded that bonfires be lighted and a medal be struck to commemorate the event.

Those are the bare bones of what happened, but there is a larger story.

The Medici Family was a famous Italian family. It began to grow important with Salvestro dei Medici in 1378, when he was the leader of the revolt of the Ciompi (wool-carders). But it was Giovanni (1360-1429), son of Averardo Bicci dei Medici, who was the actual founder of the Medicean greatness. He amassed an immense fortune by trade. He established banks in Italy and abroad which later became the most efficient engines of political power. He left two sons, Cosimo (1389-1464) and Lorenzo (1395-1440).

Cosimo was the progenitor of the branch of the family that ruled for many generations over the nominal republic of Florence and from which came Pope Leo X and Pope Clement VII. This line became extinct in the 16th century. Thus the younger branch of Lorenzo grew in prominence, supplying grand-dukes to Tuscany for 2 centuries.

Catherine/Catarina descended from Cosimo who was her great-great-great-grandfather. Lorenzo, Duke of Urbino (1492-1519) m. Madeleine de la Tour d’Auvergne (d. 1519), their daughter was Caterina (1519-1589). Her parents died soon after her birth and she was sent to a convent to be raised and educated. She married in 1533 when she was just 14 to the Duc d’Orléans, later King Henri II of France (1519-1559). Her uncle Pope Clement VII and King François I, Henri’s father, arranged the marriage. François wanted to strengthen his influence in the Italian peninsula. No children were born for 10 years and, as a result, divorce was a possibility. She finally had 2 sons. Added to the drama was Diane de Poitiers, Henri’s mistress, who wielded much more power than Catherine. Henri was a very bigoted Catholic who allowed no mercy towards Protestants. During his reign royal authority became more severe and absolute than ever.

She became regent when her husband left to fight in the campaign of Metz but with very limited powers. Catherine was being managed by her uncles, Charles, Cardinal of Lorraine, and François, Duc de Guise. When her husband died on 30 Jun 1559, she became regent during the minority and ascension to the throne of her son François II (1544-60) who was under the spell of Mary Stuart of England. He reigned for only about 17 months. He was a sickly boy and was the mere tool of his great uncles.

With the death of François, Catherine again became regent during the minority of her son Charles IX (1550-1574) who was only 10. For a time she avoided taking sides in the religious “wars”. She attempted to remain neutral. She was a stateswoman, and learned that finesse, lying and assassination were effective weapons. She was Catholic but, above all, fond of power. She was determined to prevent the Protestants from getting the upper hand. She didn’t want them utterly crushed as she wanted to use them as a counterpoise to the de Guises. This policy did not work well. Rage and suspicion were rampant and she could no longer control the opposing parties.

In 1570, she resumed the policy of peace and negotiation. She thought to marry her favorite son Hercule (called François), Duc d’Alençon, later Duc d’Anjou, then King Henri III, to Queen Elizabeth of England and her daughter Marguerite to Henri of Navarre. The first marriage to Elizabeth did not happen but the second one did. This led to a reconciliation with the Protestants. Henri’s mother Jeanne d’Albret was a Protestant and so was he. However, he was politically savvy and
realized that if he wanted to have power in France, becoming a Catholic would be a good strategic move. Thus his famous phrase, “Paris is worth a mass.”

Admiral de Coligny was allowed to return to court and to re-enter the council. Catherine came to regret the latter. Her son Charles IX became very fond of de Coligny and showed signs of becoming independent of his mother. Catherine, unhappy about the possible loss of power, had de Coligny murdered and then instigated the massacre of St. Bartholomew’s Day. The chief responsibility for this crime lies with her. Unlike many of the populace, she did not have the excuse of fanaticism. After the death of her son Charles, she pursued her old policy of compromise and concessions; her influence waned with the reign of her son Henri III. She died 5 Jan 1589.

The initiative for the massacre rests with Catherine. Her son Charles, like his brother François, was very much influenced by Admiral de Coligny. De Coligny tried to draw Charles into a war with Spain. That led to the failed assassination attempt. Catherine then decided she would have all the Huguenot leaders massacred.

Comte Gaspard de Coligny was an admiral of France and a Protestant leader. When he was 22, he went to court and became the friend of François de Guise. He became a Huguenot about 1567 due to the influence of his brother François, Seigneur d’Andelot.

When Henri II died in 1559, de Coligny demanded, along with Louis, Prince of Condé, religious toleration and certain other reforms. In 1560, at the assembly at Fontainebleau, the hostility between de Coligny and François de Guise was declared. 6 Apr 1561, an alliance between de Guise, Montmorency and the Maréchal de Saint André was formed. It was known as “the triumvirate” and was aimed at the annulment of the concessions made by Catherine to the Huguenots.

The signal for civil wars was given 1 Mar 1562, when de Guise and his escorts attacked a Huguenot congregation at Vassy. De Guise did not take part in the attack but he did not disavow their action. De Coligny decided to take up arms only after a long hesitation, since he was always open to negotiation. De Guise became the undisputed head of the Catholic party. He was appointed lieutenant-general of the kingdom. However, on 19 Feb 1563, he was shot by the Huguenot Jean Poltrot and died on the 24th. In 1569, at Jarnac, Condé was killed and de Coligny was then the sole leader of the Protestant armies.

When he returned to Court in 1571, he grew in favor with Charles IX. This relationship became his death sentence. The Queen could not allow it and she prevented all private discourse between them. On 22 Aug 1572, de Coligny was attacked and wounded by a man in the pay of the Queen Mother. Two nights later, de Coligny was attacked in his house and a servant of the Duc de Guise murdered him. The servant threw the Admiral’s body through the window and it landed at the feet of the Duc. His papers were seized and burned by Queen Catherine. His head was sent to Pope Gregory XIII in Rome who received it joyfully and struck a commemorative coin celebrating this latest Catholic triumph. The massacre continued until 17 September—it is estimated that 50,000 people were killed.

Henri II died and left Catherine with a frail brood of heirs. Three young kings came to the throne and one after another they died. She was a shrewd woman who had absolutely no scruples about playing on the vanities of her subjects for political ends. She wanted national peace but her methods were unsteady and the monarchy was weakened.

There were several dissident factions in France and they all involved religion. There were the ardent Catholics who stood for orthodoxy, eradication of heresy and were somewhat supportive of the Crown. The Duc de Guise was their leader. Another group was the Protestants, aka the Huguenots, who were disciples of Jean Chauvin/John Calvin. Some of them wanted France to become like Calvin’s theocracy in Geneva. This faction was mainly comprised of the commercial class but it had some proponents in the nobility.

Catherine, although a Catholic and the niece of a Pope, was not particularly religious but recognized that the majority of her nation was Catholic. She felt that the Huguenots could keep the country in constant turmoil if they were not given some consideration. So she passed a series of edicts, the last of which granted the Huguenots limited freedom of worship. Nobles were allowed to hold services in their own domains and certain towns were allowed Protestant chapels. The marriage of her daughter Marguerite to Henri of Navarre was another attempt to win good will.

The wedding did not produce the desired result. The Protestant nobility had gathered in Paris for the wedding thus offering
Catherine an opportunity to kill them. Only Henri and Condé were to be spared. Word spread through the populace and on the morning of St. Bartholomew’s Day, when the bells of St. Germain l’Auxerrois sounded, the Parisians rose in a fury and massacred Huguenots all over the city. Before the day was done, the Seine was running red with the blood of thousands of dead. The slaughter in Paris was followed by a chain of other massacres all over France that went on until October. More than 10,000 Huguenots were killed in those 6 weeks. The Protestant Party in France was not defeated; it was only roused to war.

A war of religion was in full sway in 1589 when the last of Catherine’s sons died after an ineffectual reign. Henri de Navarre was the next in line for the throne as he was a nephew of François I (1517-47) but the French were not ready to accept him. They recognized that he had a legitimate claim but they didn’t want a Huguenot king. Navarre – the French part, after 1234, had passed by marriage to a succession of French rulers. In 1516, Spanish Navarra was finally annexed by Ferdinand the Catholic. French Navarre survived as an independent little kingdom until it was united to the crown of France by Henri IV, founder of the Bourbon dynasty. From 1510 until 1833, when it was fully incorporated with Spain, it was a viceroyalty. So, as the King of France, Henri took “care” of his birthplace.

The de Guise family, who headed the Catholic party, coveted the throne and Henri had to fight to secure it. He won it by valiant fighting and by renouncing his Protestantism. The bloodshed ended in 1598 with the promulgation of the Edict of Nantes which gave Protestants legal recognition. This edict was not the result of a conviction that men had the right to freedom of conscience but because Henri had the vision to see that recognition was the only way to keep the peace. The Church of Rome was no longer sovereign over all of Christendom and now secular statesmen would define the values and order the direction of European society. As he was to take the throne, he said the famous words – “Paris vaut une messe” – “Paris is worth a mass”. He became Henri IV, King of France. He was assassinated 25 Jul 1593 by a Catholic zealot, François Ravaillac.

SOURCES:
The Queen Jezebel book is vol. 3 of a trilogy: Madame Serpent, The Italian Woman are the 1st 2 volumes so you can see that Plaidy had done a lot of research on Catherine. As awful as Catherine was, she was a fascinating woman whose family’s influence led her to become a very depraved schemer who wanted her children to follow where she led. She referred to the Huguenots as pestilential and nothing less than their demise was acceptable to her.

The list of Plaidy’s sources for Queen Jezebel were:
1. Paris by Henry Bidou
2. The Medici by Col. G.R. Young
3. Foxes Book of Martyrs, ed. by Dr. A. Clarke
5. France, the Nation & its Development from Earliest Times to the Establishment of the Third Republic by William Henry Hudson
6. History of France by Francois Guizot
7. Feudal Castles of France, anon.
8. Dungeons of Old Paris by Tighe Hopkins
9. Lives of the Queens of England by Agnes Strickland
10. Catherine de’ Medici and the French Reformation by Edith Sichel
11. The Later Years of Catherine de’ Medici by Edith Sichel
12. The Favourites of Henry of Navarre by E.A. Vizetelly/Le Petit Homme Rouge
13. Memoires de Marguerite de Valois by Marie Ludovic Chretien Lalanne (can’t insert accent marks in this program for some reason!)
15. Catherine de Medicis Presente a Charles IX Son Royaume by Pierre Champion
### Huguenots and Their Descendants in the Revolutionary War
#### Revised 13 June 2019

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Son of John Purviance
Grandson of Jacques Purviance II
Great Grandson of Jacques Purviance

John Purviance, Civil Service, Patriotic service NC  A092322
Son of John Purviance
Grandson of Jacques Purviance II
Great Grandson of Jacques Purviance

Peter Quintard, Sgt. CT  A093300
Son of Isaac Quintard
Grandson of Isaac Quintard

Ludwig Ranck, Private VA  A093899
Son of John Philip Ranck
Grandson of Hans Valentine Ranck
Great Grandson of Jean Valentine Ranck

Glode Requa, Capt., Patriotic service, NY  A095507
Son of Glode Requier/Requa/L’Escuyer/L’Equier
Grandson of Gabriel Requier/Requa/L’Escuyer/L’Equier

Christian Riblet, non commissioned officer PA  A096086
Son of Bartholomew Riblet(te)
Grandson of Christian Riblet(te)

Paul Revere, Civil Service, Patriotic service Lt. Col. MA  A095546
Son of Apollos/Paul Rivoire/Revere
Grandson of Isaac Rivoire/Revere
Great grandson of Jean de Rivoire/Revere

Asahel Root, Sergeant  NY - MA  A097395
Son of Jacob Root
Grandson of Jacob Root
Great Grandson of Jacob Root
GG Grandson of Thomas Root
GGG Grandson of John Root(e)
GGGG Grandson of Thomas Routtes

Pierre Jacques/James Roquemore, Patriotic Service GA  A097577
Son of Pierre Roquemore/Roquemaure

Samuel Swilley, soldier SC  A112055
Son of Stephen Souillé/Souillet
Grandson of Nicolas Souillé/Souillet
Grandson of Jean Souillé/Souillet

John Sevier, Col. VA  A102092
Son of Valentine Xavier/Sevier
Grandson of Jean/John Xavier/Sevier
MEMBERS AT LARGE

We are pleased to report that two of our Canadian members at large have connected with one another online—our dear friend Rene Peron and our new friend, member at large Jean-Marc Jossinet. They live near one another in Ottowa, Canada. Incidentally, although not a professional translator, Mr. Jossinet is a meticulous editor who is available to help those interested.
NHS 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.

Program Timeline:

January 1: Opening date for current year Youth Contest Candidate Submissions;

January 15: The Committee Chairman notifies the President General of the prior calendar year’s proposed Youth Contest winners. Once the President General has approved those winners, the Committee Chairman notifies the winners. The Chairman should forward the winning submissions along with the winners’ names and state to the Editor of the Cross of Languedoc for publication. The President General should notify the Treasurer General to promptly issue checks to the winners in accordance with the amounts promised in the Youth Contest Guidelines.

November 20: Closing date for the current year Youth Contest Candidate Submissions

Program Requirements:

1. 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.

2. Email submissions in PDF format (or JPG format for the Level 1 submissions) to requests@huguenot.netnation.com 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.