**88th National Huguenot Society Congress**

**General Information**

**Thursday, Oct 19:** Research Day at the outstanding Washington Library Genealogy Department\* in downtown Macon. (13 minutes’ drive from Tru hotel). Bring your brick walls!! Extensive resources for all states and countries. \*

That night will be a Welcome Dinner with Southern food at a special antebellum historic home. Cheryl Aultman, a local historian and speaker, will tell the story of the little boy named LeRoy Wiley Gresham who lived there. A fascinating book, “The War Outside My Window – The Civil War Diary of LeRoy Wiley Gresham, 1860-1865 – A remarkable account of the collapse of the Old South, and the final years of a privileged but afflicted life,” edited by Janet Elizabeth Crooms was written about him.

**Friday, Oct 20**: Bus Tour of historic downtown Macon, the Song & Soul of the South! Little Richard, Otis Redding, Allman Brothers, etc. Besides: Sherman missed it, so don’t you!! We will mostly be riding with a local personality acting as our historic tour guide but will be getting out to tour at the Hay House on the National Register, the Cannonball House, and stopping for lunch at a local restaurant.

Afternoon Board meeting at Idle Hour Country Club (10-minute drive) in their Board room.

Then, formal banquet with a very special appearance by “Sidney Lanier- Poet, Soldier, Lawyer, and Musician- Descendant of Huguenots “at night at Idle Hour Country Club in the ballroom. Open Bar, all courses, and champagne toasts!

**Saturday, Oct 21**: annual Congress meeting with luncheon and Memorial Service at North Macon Presbyterian Church very near the Tru hotel.

Afternoon Workshop for prospective members and friends at Washington Memorial Library Genealogy Department.

Then put on your blue jeans and let’s go to the hip, eclectic Ingleside Village Pizza to eat the best hand-tossed pizza in town!

**Sunday, Oct 22**: church service (there are at least four historic downtown churches: Mulberry Street United Methodist, First Baptist, Christ Episcopal, and First Presbyterian (church of Sidney Lanier), if desired before heading for home.

**Safe travels!!**

\* The Genealogical and Historical Room has one of the most outstanding reference collections of its type in the South. It was founded in 1923 by the Mary Hammond Washington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who realized the need for the library to provide source material and assistance for people tracing their lineage and searching for facts about their ancestors. They also believed that certain old and irreplaceable records of local and regional history should be preserved for the future and made available for researchers.

Starting with a small but valuable collection given by the James Hyde Porter family and housed in part of a small room, the Genealogical and Historical Room has grown to include more than 32,000 volumes and over 24,000 microforms. Located on the ground floor of the Washington Memorial Library, it is considered outstanding by genealogists and historians from all over the United States. Last year, over 13,000 researchers came from 38 states and 5 foreign countries to use the facilities. Considerable space is devoted to pre-colonial history as well as to colonial history and the Revolutionary War.