



# The Cross of Languedoc

A Publication of the National Huguenot Society

SPRING 2025

“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.”



## WASHINGTON STATE LANDMARKS WITH A HUGUENOT LEGACY

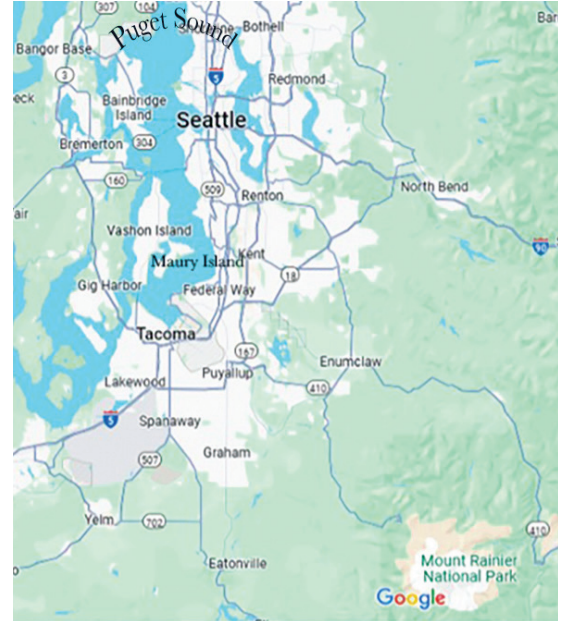


*Cover Feature Image Credit:* (1) Top: Maury Island & Vashon Island, aerial, by Joe Mabel, wikimediacommons.com CC3.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>); (2) Bottom: Mount Rainier from Tipsoo Lake, by nationalparkservice.gov. Combined cover image with text created by Janice Murphy Lorenz.

## WASHINGTON STATE'S MOST BEAUTIFUL SITES ARE NAMED AFTER HUGUENOT DESCENDANTS

By Janice Murphy Lorenz, Editor

Did you have any idea that Puget Sound, Maury Island, Vashon Island and Mount Rainier are each named after Huguenot explorer/descendants? I didn't know any of these things, either, until my niece-by-marriage, Seattle Pacific University's Associate Professor of French & Francophone Studies, Michelle Beauclair, Ph.D., informed me that Puget Sound was named after a Huguenot descendant. Not only did my research prove her quite correct as to Puget Sound, but it turns out that two of Puget Sound's prominent southern islands, Vashon Island and Maury Island, were also named after Huguenots—and all were friends and comrades of Captain George Vancouver, the famous British naval explorer of the Pacific Northwest. These islands are overlooked from deep in the southern distance by Mount Rainier, the gloriously beautiful Washington state mountain named after British Rear Admiral Peter Regnier/Rainier, a Huguenot descendant. According to one source, Rainier never actually traveled to that region or saw Mount Rainier, but he was friends with Captain Vancouver, the famous British naval explorer. Rainier's family reportedly emigrated from Languedoc directly to England, where they stayed for a time. Rainier's British military background included distinguished service in the Seven Years' War, the Revolutionary War, and the Napoleonic Wars on behalf of England. He was obviously highly-regarded by his peers. There is even a type of aster plant named *Rainiera*, which is found in Mount Rainier National Park.



Peter Puget was born in London to a family was of Huguenot descent, his family having emigrated from France to Ireland, then to England. He joined the Royal Navy at a very young age, and rose up in the ranks to be Commissioner of the Navy. He had a distinguished career, highlighted by his exploration of the world with Captain George Vancouver. Puget's touching epitaph, apparently written by his wife, appears later in this issue of *The Cross*. Information about his grave site in England was traced down by the Seattle Historical Society, according to [www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofBritain/Peter-Puget/](http://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofBritain/Peter-Puget/)

Vashon Island was so named by Captain Vancouver after the British Navy's Rear Admiral Vashon, whose illustrious career is chronicled in Vancouver's *Discovery of Puget Sound: Portraits and Biographies of Men*, by Edmond Stephen Meany. Vashon was born in 1742 in Ludlow, England; his father was the vicar of Eye in Herefordshire. He joined the navy at age 13.

Maury Island, which is sometimes considered to be attached and a part of Vashon Island, was designated a separate island and named after an American, William Lewis Maury, a Huguenot descendant from Virginia. Maury started out a US Navy midshipman who served as a cartographer and accomplished map-charterer, at first reporting to his famous cousin, Matthew Fontaine Maury, the so-called father of modern oceanography and the "pathfinder of the seas," and later under the American Commodore Wilkes. From 1838-1842, William Lewis Maury participated in an exploratory survey of Puget Sound with Wilkes, during which time Wilkes named Maury Island after him. When the Civil War began, Maury resigned in order to fight for the Confederates.

We are grateful for the pioneering explorations and military accomplishments of these Huguenot descendants.

Sources: *Vancouver's Discovery of Puget Sound*; [streetsmartnaturalist.substack.com](http://streetsmartnaturalist.substack.com/); [wikipedia.com](http://wikipedia.com)

## CALL TO THE NHS 2025 SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Washington, D.C., Wednesday - 9 April 2025 – 12:45 PM

**THE ARMY & NAVY CLUB on Farragut Square, John Paul Jones / IWO Jima Room  
901 17th ST. NW, Washington, DC 20006**

- 12:15 PM Officers' access room to set up tables
- 12:45 PM Registration and start of buffet luncheon: All members and their guests are welcome - \$60.00/per person
- 1:30 PM General Council Meeting  
(General Officers, State Society Presidents; Chairmen of Standing Committees)
- 3:15 PM Necrology Service lead by Chaplain General – Rev. Joel Strauch
- 3:45 PM Board of General Officers (Elected national officers as defined in the NHS Bylaws)  
(A Zoom link is available for the general officers not in attendance.)
- 4:45 PM Benediction and Adjournment

Dress Code: Gentlemen are required to wear a coat and necktie or a suit. Ladies attire should be of comparable degree of formality.

If you park, you will be charged \$22. If you are not charged at the garage, you will need to notify the 3rd VP General and remit the parking fee before leaving the property.

The 2025 Semi-Annual Meeting & Luncheon Registration form is included in this *Cross* and can also be found on the NHS website, [nationalhuguenotsociety.org](http://nationalhuguenotsociety.org).

### 2025 SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON REGISTRATION

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

STATE(S) \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING ( @ \$60/person): \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please RSVP by 31 March 2025**

Mail Registration and check to the NHS Treasurer General:  
Catherine Paunov, 5134 29th Avenue N, St. Petersburg, FL 33710-2706

# PRESIDENT GENERAL

**5 October 2024**

I am grateful and thankful for the progress we have made, and I hope you will share the sentiment. Earlier this year, 10 April 2024, I set several goals for my term in office. Today I wish to provide an update on our progress.

## 1. Manage the Transition Through the Bylaw Changes

- We are maintaining steady progress in managing the transition.
- A growth plan for 2025 is in place which includes placing ads in several magazines and releasing the new *2025 Register of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors*. This release will feature a special index dedicated to Revolutionary War Patriots.
- Simplify the Bylaws and revise the NHS Standing Rules
- Continue the State President's Training Program

## 2. Maintain Rituals and Traditions

As reported in April, there have been and will continue to be:

- No Ritual Changes
- No influx of other religions
- No changes in our talking points

Rituals remain an integral part of our meetings, alongside discussions of the seven Protestants and Catholic wars. These serve as valuable outreach opportunities. The 3rd Vice President General and the Registrar General will provide detailed updates on our membership status.

## 3. Improved Communications.

We have made significant strides in communication:

- Reformatted the monthly newsletter with a focus on awards, scholarship, bylaws, and parliamentary procedures. The Corresponding Secretary General will provide more detail.
- In January 2024, we hosted our first National State Presidents Training Zoom call, and we will host a second one in January of 2025.

## 4. National Huguenot Documented Information Portal

National Huguenot Documented Information Portal is now operational. The portal is made possible because the Society was awarded a nonprofit grant from Microsoft. This grant provides us free, ultra-secure iCloud storage space and back-ups with Microsoft 360. I am still working out the bugs, but it is up and running.

I have started the training courses, I continue my training, and setup of the general officers.

## 5. Transition of Insignia Operations

On February 23, 2024, we successfully transitioned from Hamilton Insignia to City Pride Ltd. This occurred with exceptional help from the Treasurer General, Registrar General, an Outstanding Insignia Committee and Committee on Finance. Funds were moved from the interest of the Endowment Fund to the new Insignia budget for the transition. As of today, all funds have been repaid to the Endowment Fund. The Insignia Committee would like to thank the membership for their purchases of the insignia since April and their support of the transition.

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As reported in April, the Insignia Committee was able to negotiate with Hamilton Insignia to transfer of the insignia to the President General in Florida and the tooling to City Pride in Jenkintown, PA. Because the Huguenot Society of Florida has a tax-exempt certificate and the President General is the most recent Past State President of the Huguenot Society of Florida and Hamilton has operations in Florida, this arrangement allowed the Society to save several hundred dollars in taxes. More information will be shared in the Insignia Report.

#### **6. Huguenot Park Partnership – Fort Caroline**

We are in preliminary stages of working out a partnership agreement with the first Huguenot Site in the United States – Fort Caroline in Jacksonville, FL. They already have a Friends of Fort Caroline Group established. The partnership would work through them as they have the paperwork filed with the US Parks Service. Additional information will be shared soon.

#### **7. Books for Kids Program**

In 2025 we will select either Scholastic or On-Read or another Program to support as a books for kids initiative.

#### **8. Refurbishing the Huguenot section of the DAR library**

Plans are being finalized to refurbish the Huguenots section of the DAR Library as a part of our outreach efforts. This project is being spearheaded by Kathy Paunov and Joyce Patton.

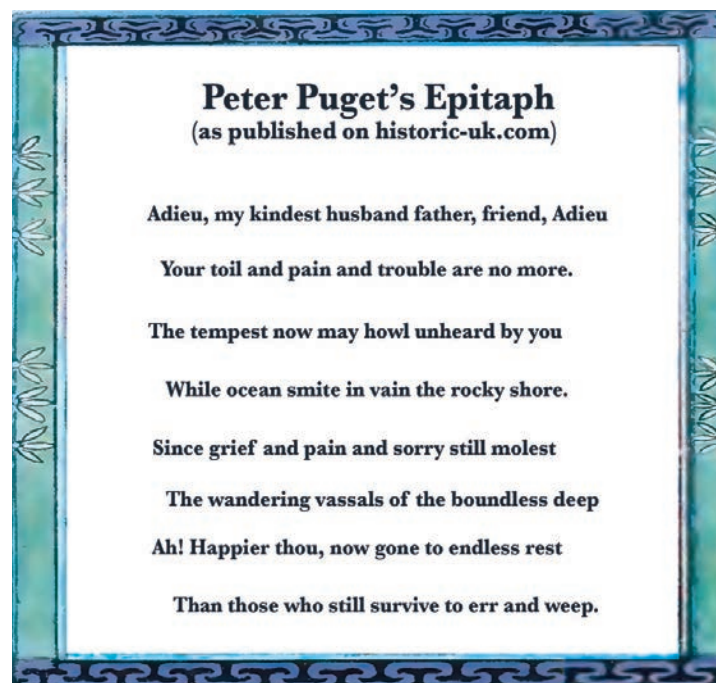
#### **Huguenot Representation:**

I had the privilege of representing the Society at several events.

- The Spring Gathering at Heritage Fortnight in April.
- All the Jean Calvin Huguenot Chapter Meetings, Florida
- Huguenot Society of Florida State Meeting.
- Huguenot Society of Georgia State Meeting.
- Heritage Weekend Illinois, and within that, the Huguenot Society of Illinois Meeting.

Grateful, thankful, and with full humility, your servant,

*Jo Lee Brooks Potts*



# MINUTES

## BOARD OF GENERAL OFFICERS MEETING

**4 October 2024 | Hotel Contessa, San Antonio, Texas**

*A General Board Officers Meeting was called to order  
by President Jo Lee Potts at 1:10 P.M. on October 4, 2024.*

Rev. Joel Strauch, Chaplain General gave an invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, the Huguenot Salute to the American Flag, and Salute to the Huguenot Flag followed.

**Joyce Patton, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP, called the roll. Those officers in attendance included:**

- President General .....Jo Lee Potts
- Vice President General .....Robin Towns
- Second Vice President General .....Nancy Schultz
- Third Vice President General .....Joyce Patton
- Chaplain General.....Joel Strauch
- Recording Secretary General .....Elizabeth Sewell
- Corresponding Secretary General .....Marjorie Wilson
- Treasurer General .....Cathy Paunov
- Genealogist General .....Nancy Brennan
- Honorary President General .....Janice M. Lorenz
- Honorary President General .....Janet B. Walker

**A quorum of six was met.**

Jo Lee Potts, the President General welcomed all. She presented a handmade insignia bag/tie pouch to all officers in thanks to our commitment to NHS.

The minutes from the 10 April 2024 Board Meeting were printed in the *The Cross of Languedoc* magazine and approved by committee. There being no corrections, the minutes were filed.

Reports of the General Officers followed. The following officers deferred their reports to the 89<sup>th</sup> Congress: President General, Jo Lee Potts; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Nancy Schultz; and Treasurer General, Catherine Paunov.

The following officers read their report: 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Robin Towns, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP, Joyce Patton, Chaplain General, Rev. Joel Strauch; Recording Secretary, Elizabeth Sewell; Corresponding Secretary, Marjorie Wilson; Registrar General, Kathy Totten; Genealogist General, Nancy Brennan; and Counselor General, Lynne Ostfeld. (See the society's cloud storage site for details.)

It was moved by Robin Towns and duly seconded to ask Brenda Dorset to fill the open Organizing Secretary General position. The motion passed unanimously. Brenda subsequently arrived, swore an oath of support to the organization, and was installed and sashed.

**The Bylaws Committee Vice Chairman, Janice Lorenze, acting on behalf of the ill and absent Barbara McManus, reported the need to address several issues:**

- Unpaid dues by state societies for Aged and Infirm members
- Magazine subscriptions by state societies for libraries
- The need for the Bylaws Committee to make editorial changes and word substitution changes so the proposed standing rule changes and bylaws changes to be presented at the 89<sup>th</sup> Congress will be uniform and clear.

**After a lengthy and thoughtful discussion on all of the above, the following motions were made:**

- States will be limited to a maximum of 10% of their membership that will not pay national dues who are classified as Aged and Infirm. Additionally, they will not receive the national magazine as a benefit.
- Magazine subscriptions will be made available to state societies for \$25 per annum if they wish to mail them to libraries.
- The Bylaws Committee will be able to make editorial changes and word substitution changes in the Bylaws and Standing Rules that may be necessary in the finalized wording to ensure uniformity, clarity, and to comport with the objectives of necessary changes to the language of the standing rules and the bylaws, once passed by the 89<sup>th</sup> Congress, to ensure uniformity.

Under New Business, Joyce Patton, chairman of the Publicity Special Committee, suggested that NHS purchase ads in other hereditary society publications to recruit members. Lengthy deliberate discussion followed. A motion was made and duly seconded to recommend that NHS put \$1500 in the budget to buy such ads. The motion passed unanimously. This will go to Congress tomorrow.

Also under New Business, it was moved by Joyce Patton and duly seconded to elect Cathy Paunov to be on the 89<sup>th</sup> Congress Nominating Committee. Janet Walker will also be on the Nominating Committee as a representative of the Honorary Presidents General. The motion passed unanimously.

*Elizabeth Sewell, Recording Secretary General*

## NOTICE OF OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION'S INTERNATIONAL MEETING

The Editor received an emailed notice of the XXth International meeting of Huguenot Descendants in Dijon, Burgundy, from 22-28 September 2025. Contact the Amities Huguenotes Internationales by email at [contact@huguenots.fr](mailto:contact@huguenots.fr), or visit their website at [www.huguenots.fr](http://www.huguenots.fr), for more details and a registration form.

### Tentative program\* of the XXth International Reunion of Huguenot Descendants

**Taking place in Dijon, from Monday 22nd to Sunday September 28th 2025:**

1. **Monday, September 22:** from 2:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., welcome of participants at the hotel, distribution of documents, badges, detailed program of the week, map of Dijon, etc.  
Individual discovery of the capital of Burgundy whose old pedestrian heart is nearby.  
**8 p.m.: Opening dinner** at the restaurant of the hotel.
2. **Tuesday, September 23:** departure by coach at **8:30 am**. Excursion to **Autun**, an important city that will allow us to evoke the Gallo-Roman, Medieval, Renaissance histories, as well as the presence of Protestantism in Burgundy. In **Le Creusot**, it is to Constance, the Protestant wife of the industrialist Eugène Schneider, that we owe the establishment of a social heritage and a temple in the 19th century.
3. **Wednesday, September 24:** day in **Dijon**. Visit of the old town and the Museum of Fine Arts. Welcome to the temple of Dijon United Protestant Church, communications from the various Huguenot delegations, who will present their activities and projects, and dinner prepared with the complicity of the parishioners.
4. **Thursday, September 25:** departure by coach at **8:30 a.m.**, visit of two sumptuous Renaissance castles: **Tanlay** built by François d'Andelot-Coligny and **Ancy-le-Franc** built in the movement of the School of Fontainebleau by Serlio and Jacques 1st Androuet Du Cerceau, decorated with frescoes by Nicolo del Abate. During the trips, we will discuss the importance of the Cluniac abbeys (Cluny, Citeaux, Fontenay).
5. **Friday, September 26:** Coach leaves at **8 a.m.**, visit **Pont-de Veyle**, a refuge for Protestants from around Macon until the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and the **Château de Fléchères** decorated with exceptional frescoes to the glory of Henry IV. Brief stop in **Tournus**.
6. **Saturday, September 27:** Free time in the morning in Dijon (market day) and will leave by coach to discover the Côte des Vins and **Beaune** (Hôtel-Dieu) in the afternoon.  
**Closing dinner in Dijon**, in a medieval room.
7. **Sunday, September 28:** Worship at the Dijon temple, meeting with parishioners, closing of the Meeting.  
(\*Program established on December 15th, 2024 subject to obtaining all necessary authorizations)

# 89<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS MEETING MINUTES

5 October 2024

Hotel Contessa, San Antonio, Texas

The 89<sup>th</sup> Congress of the National Huguenot Society was called to order by President Jo Lee Potts at 8:33 A.M. on October 5, 2024.

Rev. Joel Strauch, Chaplain General gave an invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, the Huguenot Salute to the American Flag, Salute to the Huguenot Flag, and the ritual followed.

**Joyce Patton, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, gave a credentials report. There were:**

- 12 National Officers
- 1 State President
- 2 Honorary Presidents Generals
- 11 Delegates

There were 26 voting delegates, and a quorum was established to conduct the business of the society. Additionally, there were two members and six guests. Nine state societies were represented. Credentials report was filed.

Robin Towns, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President General next offered the Standing Rules, as printed in the Congress Program, of the Society to be used to conduct the business of the meeting. Hearing no objection, a vote to adopt the Standing Rules as presented was unanimously approved.

The President General welcomed all. She particularly thanked Nancy Brennan, Kathy Totten, and the Languedoc Chapter of Texas for their efforts for the 89<sup>th</sup> Congress. Nancy Brennan then read a proclamation from the Mayor of San Antonio regarding the NHS 89<sup>th</sup> Congress and declaring 5 October 2024 as “*National Huguenot Day*” in San Antonio. Additionally, the President General, offered Certificates of Recognition by the General Officers, the President General, and the general membership of the National Huguenot Society to Nancy Wright Brennan and Kathy Pace Totten for their extraordinary efforts in organizing the 89<sup>th</sup> Congress.

The President General lead the vote to approval the 89<sup>th</sup> Congress Program as printed. Hearing no objection to the 89<sup>th</sup> Congress Program, it was unanimously approved.

The minutes from the 88<sup>th</sup> Congress, previously approved by committee and printed in *The Cross of Languedoc*, were discussed. Hearing no corrections or objections to the minutes, the minutes were filed.-

Three people were appointed to approve this meeting’s minutes. They are Nancy Schultz, representing the Board of General Officers with Brenda Dorsett and Cheryl Clements representing the membership.

The President General appointed Cathy Paunov as timekeeper.

## Reports of General Officers

President General.....Jo Lee Potts  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President General.....Robin Towns  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President General .....Nancy Schultz  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President General .....Joyce Patton  
 Treasurer General .....Cathy Paunov

The society’s financial reports were distributed and discussed. A recommendation came from the Board of General Officers to include \$1500 for the purchase of ads in other heritage society magazines. The purpose is to increase awareness of the National Huguenot Society. Scholarship funds were then discussed.



It was moved by Robin Towns and duly seconded to postpone the approval of the 2025 budget until the April 9th General Board meeting in Washington, DC. After careful and discerning questions and discussion, all financial reports and tools were approved unanimously by the delegates.

Finance Chair, Rev. Joel Strauch discussed our investments. We had a healthy gain in 2023-2024 and all investment accounts exhibit the appropriate risk for the current environment. The Finance Committee recommends no changes to the current portfolio.

Registrar General Kathy Totten

The society had 50 members join this past year.

Corresponding Secretary General – Marjorie Wilson

Chaplain General – Rev. Joel Strauch.

A memorial service will be held near the conclusion of the 89th Congress.

Genealogist General – Nancy Brennan

She is presently working with Kathy Totten and Janice Lorenz on a new *Register of 2025 Qualified Huguenot Ancestors of the National Huguenot Society*.

Counselor General – Lynne Ostfeld, Esq.

She noted that she would be checking the state societies where the IRS has revoked their tax-exempt status and working with them to resolve the issues.

## **Reports of the Standing Committees**

Scholarly Works – Joel Strauch reported on the Scholarly Works recipient, Dr. Lee.

Membership - Joyce Patton looks forward to working with the Members at Large and with members in Indiana and Kentucky by helping to collect dues and invigorate and reacquaint them with the benefits of membership in NHS.

Document Information Portal - President General

Parliamentarian – Report is on file.

Publications - Janice Lorenz, Honorary President General, announced that the goal is to have the Register published by the spring.

Bylaws Committee – It was shared that Barbara MacManus will be unable to return to the Bylaws Chair position. The President General appointed Shirley Vanderbeck to be the new Bylaws Chair. The Bylaws Committee is presently headed by pro-tem chair Janice Lorenz, who read extensive changes for the standing rules and bylaws to include:

## **Changes to the Bylaws, recommended by the Bylaws Committee**

**Addition of a new Article III** - Organizational Structure & Operations was unanimously approved.

**Changed Wording - Article IV** – Membership and other Relationships; Section C Membership Eligibility and Qualifications for Individuals by Classification; 7. Friends of the Huguenot Society no longer receive free copies of the *Cross of Languedoc*. - was unanimously approved.

**Updated wording and deferred to updated Standing Rules - ARTICLE V STATE MEMBER SOCIETIES**

Section D Duties of State Member Societies (c) A member who qualifies under the Standing Rules of the Nation Huguenot Society, Inc, as approved by the Board of General Officers, may be exempt from paying dues because of age or infirmity. [See Updated Standing Rules 3:10] was unanimously approved.

**Updated wording - ARTICLE V STATE MEMBER SOCIETIES;** Section D Duties of State Member Societies; Section J Disbandment, Termination, Dissolution, or Inactivity of a State Member Society - was approved. [State Society Bylaw change required to be made, worded exactly as the NHS article, and filed with NHS]. – motion made by Finance Chair Joel and unanimously approved.

**Added - ARTICLE VIII DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF GENERAL OFFICERS;** Section C First Vice Presidents General; - Chair the Documented Information Committee in maintaining the National Huguenot Society List of Documents and Records per the Standing Rules and once during each term complete a review of the documents on files. - was unanimously approved.

**Clarification - ARTICLE VIII DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF GENERAL OFFICERS;** Section M Honorary Presidents General – was unanimously approved.

**Added - ARTICLE XIII COMMITTEES;** Section 4 Documented Information Committee; - was approved.

**Moved - ARTICLE XIII COMMITTEES;** Section A; Standing Committees; Section 8 Insignia Committee moved from ARTICLE XIII COMMITTEES; Section C; SPECIAL COMMITTEES; Section 1 - was unanimously approved.

**Added - ARTICLE XIII COMMITTEES;** Section B; Duties of Standing Committees; Section 4 Documented Information Committee; - was approved.

**Added - ARTICLE XIII COMMITTEES;** Section B; Duties of Standing Committees; 8. Insignia Committee - was unanimously approved.

### **Updates to the 1997 Standing Rules, recommended by the Bylaws Committee:**

**Added - ARTICLE III:** Organization; 3.2: Genealogical Records - was unanimously approved.

**Added - ARTICLE III:** Organization; 3.5: Scholarships and Essay Contests – words “religion, or culture” - was unanimously approved.

**Added - ARTICLE III:** Organization; 3.8; Logo - was unanimously approved.

**Added - ARTICLE III:** Organization; 3.9: Records Retention Policy and Procedures - was unanimously approved.

**Added - ARTICLE III:** Organization; 3.10 - 3.10.1 thru 3,10.3 : Dues Waivers - was unanimously approved.

**Added – “Third” Vice President** – in reference to working with the Members-At-Large MAL. - was unanimously approved.

**Added - ARTICLE III:** Organization; 3.13: Documented Information Control – Remain in Procedure and not move to the standing rules – was approved.

**Added – ARTICLE III:** Organization: 3:14 Document Management:

### **The next order of business were the reports by the state societies.**

#### **The following state societies’ reports were filed:**

- Alabama
- Arizona
- Florida
- Kansas
- North Carolina
- Oklahoma

#### **The following state societies’ reports were read:**

- California
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Texas

#### **Special Committees:**

- Insignia – Jo Lee Potts

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## New Business

- 2025 Nominating Committee, a motion was made to elect two members, Gayle Demeyer from west of the Mississippi River, and Joel Strauch from the east of the Mississippi River to join Janet Walker, Honorary President General, Cathy Paunov, elected from the Board of General Officers, and Joyce Patton, a Georgia State President. These individuals fulfill the positions required by our bylaws for a Nominating Committee. The motion passed unanimously by the membership.
- Revising the PayPal site for those Members at Large who pay their dues this way to include a method to make donations to various scholarship funds and other endeavors. Motion from Joyce Patton, seconded, and approved.
- Sell ads in *The Cross of Languedoc* to other heritage societies or merchandise vendors. Janice Lorenze to determine and set the cost of the ads. Recommendation from the Publicity Committee, seconded, and approved.
- Develop a list Huguenots who came to Jamestowne and add this information to the portal and website. Motion from Nancy Brennan, seconded, and approved.
- List donations by members in *The Cross of Languedoc* including honorariums and memorials; however, those wishing to remain anonymous should be given every courtesy requested and required. Janice Lorenze to determine and set the cost of the memorials and format. Recommendation from the Publicity Committee, seconded, and approved.
- Authorize Publicity Committee to spend up to \$1500 in 2025 for advertisements and other communications to encourage individual to join the NHS. Recommendation from the Publicity Committee, seconded, and approved.
- Limit state societies to a maximum of 10% of their membership who will not pay national dues and who are classified as Aged and Infirm. Additionally, those members will not receive the national magazine as a benefit. Recommendation from the Board of General Officers, seconded, and approved.
- The President General will look into the acquisition of the assets of the defunct Indiana State Society, as per NHS By-laws. Request of the Finance Committee. President General said yes.
- A discussion about re-ordering “Pamela Write” “Logo charms” was tabled until the Board of General Officers Meeting in Washington, DC in the Spring.
- The next Board of General Officers Meeting, State President’s and members meeting will be Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at the Army/Navy Club in Washington, DC at noon. The meeting will follow a luncheon.

Lastly, it was moved by Janet Walker and duly seconded to have the 90<sup>th</sup> Congress in Jacksonville, FL from October 2 – 4, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

President General adjourned the meeting at 3:45 P.M.

Following the meeting, Chaplain General, Rev. Rev. Joel Strauch guided a memorial service for those recently departed members. Some of the deceased were eulogized by members in attendance.

Respectfully Submitted  
*Elizabeth Sewell*  
Recording Secretary General

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## First Vice President General

October 5, 2024

The First Vice Present General has attended all meetings of the National Huguenot Society and has assisted the President General when needed. She has attended meetings of the Georgia Society.

This Officer has aided in the planning of the meetings held in Washington, DC, acting as the member sponsor for the Army and Navy Club. She has served as Chair for the 88<sup>th</sup> Congress in Macon, Georgia, hosted by the Huguenot Society of Georgia. This Officer has served as a member of the National Society Nominating Committee for the 2023-2025 Slate. She has served on the Insignia Committee for two terms, where numerous insignia provider problems have been addressed, and much progress has been made for the National Society.

It has been a privilege and pleasure to serve under the capable leadership of President General Jo Lee Potts.

*Robin R. Towns*

## Third Vice President General

I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as Third Vice President in the Potts Administration; at times it has been challenging but a problem gives us time to look at things again and find a solution. We can share our ideas and find solutions, thanks to our President General Potts, Marjorie Wilson, Corresponding Secretary, who was able to distribute the Newsletter to all our Members at Large and answer questions. This Officer mailed all the Dues notices to our MALs two weeks ago, today when speaking to the Registrar General she has already received four checks from these members.

We have state societies who have not been meeting nor corresponding with their membership. It is my opinion that the National Society should send all these members and those who have been dropped in the last five years an invitation to become MALs until their state can form a State Society. This could be accomplished by sending an invitation to pay dues and announcing the President General invites these members to attend a Zoom meeting explaining the importance of their membership and ways they can continue to participate in the Society. The last two disbanded states had a total of eighty-nine members; if half of these members would return to membership it would be a huge bonus to the National Society.

### New Members over the past year are as follows:

New Members	49	1 Reinstatement	1 Junior Member
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### Breakdown

5 Members at Large	2 District of Columbia	8 North Carolina
3 Florida	7 Texas	2 Washington State
6 Kansas	10 Georgia	2 Mississippi
3 Oklahoma	1 Virginia	

**Total Membership 1,349**

We are holding on our own, but plans are being made to increase our membership soon. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

My highest regards,  
*Joyce Ball Patton*

## Registrar General

Since 1 January, 72 New Member Applications have been approved, 1 is a Junior member. 3 Members transferred, 2 reinstated, 3 supplementals were approved, and 1 Youth registration have also been approved. North Carolina, Georgia and Texas had the most new members in 2024 and I was also thrilled to receive new member applications from states that have been quiet for some time.

37 Members have been reported deceased to the Registrar General.

The December 31, 2024, Member Count stands at 1263. The count includes members from disbanding KY and IN Societies. The most recent information we have on Indiana and Kentucky members has been sent to the Third Vice President General and Organizing Secretary General. It is hoped that, after contact, these members will transfer to MAL or another State Society.

New Ancestors have been added to the 2025 Register of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors, and additional Ancestors have been revised to increase generations of descendents.

I have been contacted by several prospective members that will be submitting additional new ancestors in 2025.

Insignia Orders are now being handled thru the Insignia Committee and City Pride. We have received the Former State President's Pins; they will be shipped from the San Antonio office.

Member at Large dues renewals are being mailed to the San Antonio office to give them a consistent address for their mail.

I have made 149 Address changes and responded to 175 Membership Queries.

Deposited Dues, Fees, and Store Sales totaled: \$20,620.00. This total includes funds from the NHS Congress Registrations that were mailed to San Antonio. The funds also include application fees, dues and items sold at the NHS Congress.

### **124 store items have been sold, packaged and mailed. Best sellers were:**

18 copies of the 2020 Update to the Register

11 copies of the Huguenot Lineage Research Book

12 copies of the 2012 Register of Qualified Ancestors

12 copies of the 2016 Update to the Register

16 President General's Lapel Ship Pins

7 St Bartholomew's Pins

8 NHS Charms

8 Men's Neckties and 11 NHS Scarves

8 Huguenot Tote Bags

### **Other items sold, totaled 55**

Last Item: The *2025 Register of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors*, is in the final stages of editing and formatting.

This concludes my 2025 Report.

***Katherine Pace Totten,***  
Registrar General



NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY  
LIBERTY FAITH

## Genealogist General

**October 1, 2024**

This officer has responded to queries forwarded from the President General for ancestors Boitoult, Jarrett, McDonald, Runyon, and Forrer. She has responded to queries directly through genealogist general NHS email link for ancestors Rousmanier, LaRue, Miller, Martorano, Bessong, Stabile, Petillion, and Forry. The Registrar General was copied on these requests for information when appropriate.

This officer has assisted with content questions posed by the Editor for the 2025 Register of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors and assisted and coordinated with the Registrar General regarding these questions.

In cooperation with the Editor, this officer has revised the list of Huguenots and their Descendants in the Revolutionary War with additions and revisions.

***Nancy W. Brennan,***  
Genealogist General

## Counselor General

Madam President General,

It is an honor to have been selected to serve the National Huguenot Society as its Counselor General. I am an attorney duly admitted to practice law in the State of Illinois, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, United States Court of Appeals (7th Circuit), and before the Supreme Court of the United States of America. I am also legal advisor to the French Consulate of Chicago. I am a solo practitioner with my main office in Chicago, a second office in Peoria County, Illinois on a family farm, and I am associated with the DMA-LEX law firm in Paris, France.

With the patient help of Catherine A. Paunov, immediate past Counselor General, I have been learning my responsibilities. In that regard I have investigated the state societies maintaining their not-for-profit status with the Internal Revenue Service (Form 990 N). The following are current: Alabama, Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee (through Georgia), Texas, and Virginia.

Five state societies had their not-for-profit status revoked due to failure to file their Form 990 N. A number of state societies may be out of status with their own state secretaries of state. A number may be non-existent, at least as far as the IRS and their own states are concerned. I will be working with these and one other society which failed to file its 990 N this past year, all with the goal of ensuring their compliance with state and federal requirements. An updated report will be submitted at the semi-annual meeting in 2025.

In line with other responsibilities, I will be taking a more active role with committee assignments: Documented Information, Finance, and the ever popular Confection, for which I am sole member and *Confection Consigliere*.

I attended the annual congress in Macon, Georgia, the semi-annual meeting in Washington D.C., and I will be attending the Congress in San Antonio, Texas.

***Lynne R. Ostfeld, Esq.***



## STATE SOCIETY REPORTS

### Alabama

The Huguenot Society of Alabama meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in March and September each year. Our Spring meeting was held at the Birmingham Country Club on March 28, 2024. Sixteen members and four guests were in attendance. Our program, "The Huguenot Experience in America" was presented by Dr. Scott McGinnis, professor of Biblical and Religious Studies, Howard College of Arts and Sciences, Samford University. Dr. McGinnis highlighted the Reformation Period, and a lively discussion followed. New yearbooks were distributed to those attending and mailed to others.

Our Fall meeting was held on September 26, 2024, at the Birmingham Country Club. We were so excited to have eighteen members and five guests attending. Two of the guests are prospective members who are ready to submit their applications. Once again, our program was presented by a professor from the history department at Samford University here in Birmingham, AL. Dr. Jonathan Den Hartog presented a fascinating program about Elias Boudinot, a Founding Father of the United States and grandson of Huguenot Jean Boudinot and Marie Suire of Marans, Aunis, France. Members were thrilled to learn about the many contributions of the Boudinot family.

The membership of our Society remains steady, and we look forward to adding more members in 2025. Our Spring meeting will be our biennial Huguenot church service at South Highlands Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, Alabama on March 27, 2025. The Huguenot Society of Alabama is proud to be part of the National Huguenot Society.

*Alice Ball Jones,*  
President

### Arizona

Dear Madam President General:

Our Arizona Society meets 2 times a year in a restaurant in Phoenix with a private room available each meeting. Attendance is approximately 32 people, with 10 Huguenots at each gathering. We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in the months of October and March. The other groups with us are: Magna Charta, Lady Godiva, Sons & Daughters of the Pilgrims and members of the Jamestowne Society.

We have had some excellent speakers, giving us insight into all aspects of history, from talks on the Mayflower voyage, Knights in the Middle Ages, Land Grants that changed America, to hearing about the book, written recently by Jim Bish – a story about George Washington.

With the unfortunate resignation of our State President, John Thorne, this Vice-President had stepped up to finish his term of office for 2023 – 2025. Our Nominations for new Officers for the term of 2025-2027 are underway with our meeting on October 26th, 2024. We look forward to beginning a new and exciting chapter in this most august Society.

*Sincerely, Mrs. Lee Thomasson Nelson,*  
State President, Pro-Tem

Head of the Chino Valley Children's Library, Rebecca Lawrence, receives book on life of first Native American Doctor in Arizona, Dr. Carlos Montezuma.



Dr. Montezuma  
as a youth



Dr. Montezuma,  
later in life as a Doctor



## California

The Huguenot Society of California held meetings in May, September and February via Zoom. Our current membership is 45 members. This year two new members were added, two members were lost due to death, three members dropped for non-payment of dues. There are 28 persons on the prospective member list. The Society is being promoted at state lineage society meetings and by word-of-mouth.

Every month a veterans' birthday card list, of about 15 names each time, is distributed to our members who, in turn, send birthday cards to the vets, especially to the ones who are aged 90 years or older. The veterans are receiving over 100 cards.

In the fall two scholarships were awarded to students at California Baptist University. The first scholarship of \$1000 went to a Junior who is studying Psychology and Christian Studies. The second scholarship of \$1300 went to a Sophomore who is studying Health Care Administration and Christian Studies. In addition, each student received a personal certificate for Academic Achievement from our Society.

Currently the Society is researching an additional project which will reflect our Huguenot heritage.

It is an honor for this officer to represent the California Society at this meeting.

*Penny Adams-O'Neill,*  
President

## Florida

The Huguenot Society of Florida has been active since our last report and in good financial condition.

The Society's 71st Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, April 6, 2024 at The Alford Inn, Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida. It was a hybrid meeting with seven members/officers present in person and seven members/officers present via Zoom. Our in person members included President General Jo Lee Potts of the Jean Calvin Chapter.

The State now has four chapters with 128 members, three of which are new members this year. We have had two deaths reported so far in 2024.

The Admiral Gaspard de Coligny Chapter currently holds joint meetings with the National Society of Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims, Florida branch in April and October. The chapter has had Treasurer General Cathy Paunov and President General Jo Lee Potts as speakers. The chapter's next joint meeting will be in October 2024.

The Fort Caroline Chapter had its spring meeting luncheon at the Sevilla Condominiums Community Center, Atlantic Beach, Florida in March with DAR member, Kitty McIlhaney, presenting an outstanding program entitled Florida Flags and Flag Facts. The fall meeting/luncheon was held at the same location in September 2024 with Josh Salestrom, Lead Park Ranger of the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve and Fort Caroline National Park, giving us a very interesting and informative overview of the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve and the French colonial experience at Fort Caroline. We also had special guest, President General Jo Lee Potts, at our September meeting. Fort Caroline Chapter currently has 32 members and is active and in good standing.



Lead Park Ranger, Josh Salestrom



The Jean Calvin Chapter met in March and has not been able to meet again prior to the submission of this report. Our numbers have been reduced, but we have new and prospective members. Regrettably, the chapter lost its long time faithful member Pru-Ann Miller this year, who is greatly missed by the members. The chapter has found a good meeting place at the Fruitville Library in Sarasota, which works well with going to a nearby restaurant afterwards for lunch and fellowship.

The Louis DuBois Chapter advised its big project for this year was a \$1,000 donation to the DuBois Pioneer Home in the Palm Beach Parks. The donation check was personally presented by our member and past chapter president, Brett Brown, and other members attended the ceremony. The chapter received a very nice thank you letter from the Parks Department.

Our state scholarship, the Allen Parker Scholarship, is available to applicants meeting the requirements. We had one applicant to receive the state scholarship in 2024, Paul Christian DuBois-Weber of the Jean Calvin Chapter.

It is my honor and privilege to represent the Huguenot Society of Florida as President. Although, I am not able to attend the 89th Congress of the National Huguenot Society, on behalf of the Huguenot Society of Florida, we wish President General Jo Lee Potts and all attending the Congress in San Antonio a successful and enjoyable time. Hope to see you next year.

**Judi Adams,**  
President

## Georgia

Madame President General,

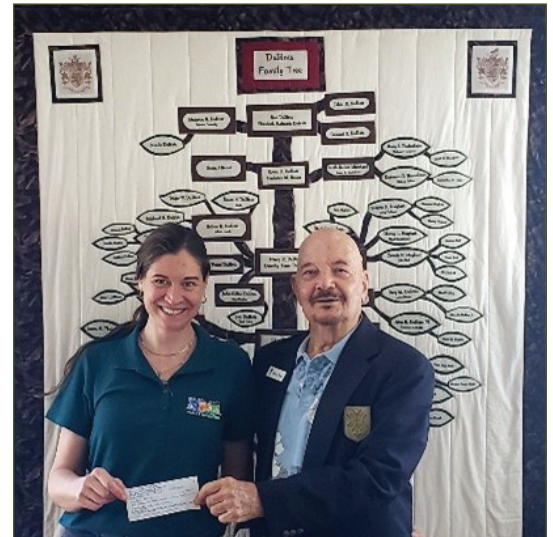
The Georgia Society has been extremely busy promoting Membership and Enthusiasm. It is my honor to announce we have ten new members for 2024 and had ten new members in 2023. Membership guarantees our National and State Society a future. The 'Excitement and Enthusiasm' we have is contagious, our Prospective Members want to drink the Georgia Huguenot Kool Aid. We have increased our Members and Prospectives who attend meetings. We credit this to remarkably interesting speakers, great food in beautiful locations, and lots of sharing of our Huguenot Friendship.

The last meeting held in the home of Honorary President General, Janet Butler Walker. She welcomed everyone into the beautiful home in a park-like setting, and everyone appreciated the time our HPG spent preparing for the meeting. It was truly an honor to be one of her first guests in her new home.

We were extremely excited to have our President General, Jo Lee Potts, and her lovely daughter Sarah as our guests. The President General gave a program on the Mereau coins while showing us her collection.

Chapter Delegates served by the Bylaws by their office and three members were elected from the membership for National Congress. We set a Georgia record with a total of nine GA members and guests attending Congress in San Antonio.

We have more applications in San Antonio and more going that way. It was so exciting to have seven members and two prospective members attending the Congress in San Antonio. Everyone is looking forward



Brett Brown with Parks Department representative at presentation

to more meetings and travel. I would like the Georgia Society to travel to the Huguenot Church and area in Charleston before May of 2025. One of the reason Georgia has been successful is stressing the point that each member is on the Membership Committee. Our success is up to every member, and we plan to celebrate everyone's guests and Prospective Members. If you want to have fun, plan to attend a Georgia Meeting, we would like to welcome you.

It has been an honor to serve during the Potts Administration.

***Joyce Ball Patton,***  
President

## **Illinois**

Madame President General, the Illinois Society held a meeting in November with a report on the 88th National Huguenot Society Congress. The program was given by Vice President Ann Wilkerson on France's Contributions to the World. A quiz followed. Our next meeting will be at Illinois Heritage Weekend with a very special guess, President General Jo Lee Potts. We're looking forward to her visit.

This officer was at the April meeting in Washington, D.C.

Illinois is happy to have Nancy Renfrow Schultz serving as Second Vice President General, Lynne R. Ostfeld as Counselor General, Jeannine Sheldon Kallal, Honorary President General, serving on the Genealogy Committee, and Stephen Brown Gerth on the Publicity Committee.

It's been a genuine pleasure to serve as Illinois President during your term.

***Jane Schleinzer,***  
President

## **Indiana**

Editor's Note: The Indiana Society is dissolving, per notification by the loyal state officer Sarah L. Lavorgna. It is being assisted in this process by the Third Vice President General of NHS and Organizing Secretary General Brenda Dorsett.

## **Kansas**

Growing our membership continues to be the main focus of the Kansas Society. We have added six new members to our roster in the last year. Last year the Kansas Society donated \$500 to the Scholarship Fund. This year our donation is \$250. We have updated our Bylaws and expect to hold the final vote on those this fall. Despite numerous challenges, we persevere and continue to move forward in service to the National Huguenot Society.

***Mary Frisch,***  
President

## **Mississippi**

The latest meeting of the Huguenot Society of Mississippi was in March, 2024.

We have been unable to have our fall meeting for various reasons but plan to meet in the spring. The Huguenot Society of Mississippi has several prospective members.

***Mary Margaret Buck,***  
President

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## North Carolina

The Huguenot Society of North Carolina has been busy adding new members. Our January 2025 roster indicates that in 2024, we added 17 new members and 1 reinstatement. Our current membership stands at 125 which includes 9 junior members. One of our junior members, John Robert Harman III, who joined in 2023 via his Huguenot parents, John Robert Jr. and Amanda, is pictured. Our plan to help recruit junior members by not charging a state application fee has been a nice incentive.

In June 2024, NC member Joanne R. Thompson passed away at the age of 97. Joanne was a member for 15 years. She left a legacy with her daughter, Karen Geiger, her son-in-law, William Geiger and her son, Randy Thompson as members.

In April, we recognized distinguished author and professor, Dr. Dudley M. Marchi as a Friend of the Society. Dr. Marchi gave the members a program on NC Huguenots several years ago and continued to attend our annual meetings. Dr. Marchi passed away in September 2024.



NC Junior Member  
John Robert Harman III

Our annual meeting will be held on March 22, 2025. We will nominate, elect and install the 2025-2027 officers.

At the 89<sup>th</sup> National Congress, our registrar, Brenda Dorsett was installed as the Organizing Secretary General. We are grateful to Brenda for her dedication as a member and officer.

HSNC continues to have a good relationship with our outstanding National officers. We are grateful for their service and their efforts to assist when needed.

It has been a pleasure to serve as State President of The Huguenot Society of North Carolina, working with our state officers, supporting The National Huguenot Society and communicating regularly with our members.

In Huguenot Faith, *Elaine Baldasare*,  
President

## Oklahoma

State Bylaws have been updated with the assistance of NHS Parliamentarian General Shirley Vanderbeck, PRP. We could not have achieved our goal without her guidance and wealth of knowledge.

We currently have 19 active members and dues are being collected. Oklahoma's one recent new member is resigning because, unfortunately, she is moving to a state without a society. We have one application pending. Our recruiting efforts are beginning to bear fruit and we have several interested individuals who need to submit their documentation.

Gayle Demeyer, Treasurer will be attending the national Congress in Texas. I'm looking forward to her report.

No new member deaths have been reported since the of Nadine Hardin, who was an associate member.

Oklahoma is planning our annual meeting in the Tulsa area in November.

### State elected officers:

Lelia Sue Allen, President - #43-000-23

Kristen Ferate, Vice President - #43-102

Gayle Demeyer, Treasurer - #43-108

Donna Gantt, Chaplain - #43-000-80 OK

Carole Martin, Registrar - #43-000-98

*Submitted by Lelia Sue Allen (Sue Suthers Allen),*



“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.”

# Memories of Congress 2025



Outgoing President

## Tennessee

The Huguenot Society of Tennessee met on Saturday, November 16, 2024 at *Beyond the Garden Gate* in Chattanooga, TN. The meeting was called to order by President Carolyn Marvil, with eleven members and one prospective member present. The business meeting followed the rituals. A nominating committee was elected to present a new slate of officers for election and installation at the Spring 2025 meeting. Delegates were nominated and elected for the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting in Washington, DC.



L to R: Nancy Carr (Registrar), Noella Oberlin, Jo Hill (Treasurer), Suzann Emery, Hall Reynolds, Wanda Taylor (Recording Secretary), Carolyn "Lyn" Marvil (President), Jan McGill (Chaplain), Debra Wilson (Corresponding Secretary), Jeanetta Hicks, Mary James (Historian), and Janie Bitner (First Vice President).

President Marvil delivered a presentation on Gaspard II de Coligny (1519-1572), "*A Leader of the Huguenots*". The society explored his family roots, his military life at the service of the crown, his conversion to the Reformed Faith while in prison for two years, his role in the Italian Wars, and his appointment as the Admiral of France. Because of his involvement with the Netherlands, Charles' IX Council wanted Coligny eliminated. He was one of the first ones killed in the St. Bartholomew Massacre on August 24, 1572.

He was also instrumental in initiating at least two settlements (Brazil, Florida) in the New World at least 40 years prior to Jamestown and Plymouth. A commemorative half dollar was produced by the U.S. Mint. These are available on eBay and other websites today.

While John Calvin is surely France's most influential Reformed giant, Admiral Gaspard remains one of the most remarkable French heroes of all time. In addition to other monuments, the noble selflessness portrayed by the Admiral is well-summarized in his own words, inscribed at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC. (This tablet was erected by the Huguenot Society of Washington in 1939).



The Huguenot-Walloon  
Tercentenary Half Dollar  
1624-1924

*"I will freely forget all things, whether evil or injury, done unto me alone, provided that the glory of God and the public weal be safe."*

**Carolyn "Lyn" Beyer Marvil**



## Texas

Texas Huguenots have had a very successful year despite losing our State President who had to resign due to health issues. We were honored to host the October 89<sup>th</sup> NHS Congress in San Antonio. We had perfect weather and the San Antonio River Walk location was appreciated by all our guests. Thank you to Languedoc and LaRochelle Chapter members who worked so hard to make the weekend memorable.

Although we lost some long time members to death and said good bye to others we welcomed 10 new members and have close to 20 additional prospectives of different denominations working on their papers. We look forward to continuing to grow in 2025.

***Katherine Pace Totten,***

Treasurer, Huguenot Society of TX; President, Languedoc Chapter, San Antonio, TX

## Virginia

The meeting was called to order by President Janice Welch at 12:40 pm. An invocation was given by Chaplain Janice Welch, followed by the Ritual and lunch. Joel Strauch introduced the speaker, Janice Lorenz, Honorary President General, who gave a very informative talk on “Two Huguenot Lines to Colonial Virginia and New York.”

Chaplain Janice Welch presented a memorial service for three deceased members of the Virginia Huguenot Society: Barbara Field Rose, Charles G. Crockett and Associate Member Alan Duane Wills. Several members shared memories of the three deceased members. Photos were taken.

President Janice Welch reported that the National Society has terminated their relationship with Hamilton Jewelers. CityPride, LTD will now provide insignia for the Society.

Possible places to have our meetings were discussed. The Alpine Chef in Fredericksburg was suggested. Members were requested to submit their ideas to President Welch and she will email a list after the first of the year for consideration.

The Sunshine Fund was discussed for paying dues for those who are unable to pay. This will include the magazine, *The Cross of Languedoc*.

April, 2025 will be the start of our new year. A new slate of officers will be needed. Several current officers have volunteered to stay or change offices.

Registrar Virginia Huertes Rouse informed the members that we have one new member: Karen Connair, and one new prospective member whose papers will be submitted before the end of October: David Lloyd Peters who was in attendance. She also informed the members that while researching Karen Connair's application, she found errors in the Huguenot Book which she reported and provided proofs to the National Registrar. She also found mistakes in DAR records and reported them as well.

Treasurer Joel Strauch reported that the total funds on hand (including investments), is \$47,798.05. Joel also encouraged members to identify candidates for scholarships which are now available to anyone. He requested that \$21,000 be reserved for them. The National Society has \$5,000 available for scholarships. He also noted that Life Memberships are available.

Registrar Virginia Rouse reported that as of October 26, 2024 the total membership is 75.

Historian Dorothy Lee Rosen asked for members to submit anything that should go into the historical records.

The speaker, Janice Lorenz, handed out a Huguenot Issues Survey.

The Chaplain gave the Benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 2:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

***Peggy Burroughs,***

Recording Secretary

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Documented Information Committee (new committee)

In March of 2024 the National Huguenot Society was awarded an open-ended grant from Microsoft for Microsoft for Non-Profits Foundation. Under the grant, the Society has five free licenses to all Microsoft Pro-Products and highly reduced prices if we would need additional licenses. The grant includes their Microsoft Pro Defender Advanced Security service with iCloud storage. The award renews automatically indefinitely or until Microsoft discontinues the grant program. They provide free cloud space and Microsoft Pro-Defender.

During the April 10, 2024, Board Meeting in Washington, D.C. a brief discussion was held about creating a Documented Information Portal. Following this discussion, I began the work to create the portal in SharePoint.

Currently, the Society stores documents and records in hard copy as well as on personnel laptops, iPads, and similar devices. We do not have the funds to invest in our own server or the funds to support our own IT system.

#### **This method poses several challenges for the Society:**

1. No assigned owner to information.
2. Transferring information during administrative changes.
3. Multiple copies of information with owners unaware of which copy is the most current.
4. Accessing information in the case of illness or death.
5. Significant risk of loss of information.
6. Technical information or virus attacks due to a lack of anti-virus protection.

To address these risks, we are exploring whether the portal can serve as a centralized, secure, repository, and efficient solution. While we recognize that building and maintaining such a system has its own risk and recognizing that it takes time and effort to process down such a path, we feel it is worth testing to determine its viability.

In June of 2024, I opened the portal and began its development. By September, I had started inviting the General Board Officers. We have had mixed results. Windows/Dos users appear to be able to access the portal. iPad and MAC users have issues getting into the system.

The portal is not yet perfect, and I am still learning on how to optimize its functionality. There are several bugs that need to be resolved. If we each had NHS.org emails, this would be much easier, but we use our personal emails. That adds a level of complication that one does not have in a regular company. Each person has a different computer and different software, yet another level of complexity. The system can handle these, it is a function of me taking the training and learning the coding to code the programming. Stay tuned for more updates as we refine and expand this project.

*Jo Lee Potts*  
Chair





## BOSTON'S OLD NORTH CHURCH INTERIOR RESTORATION REVEALS ANGELS CREATED IN HUGUENOT DAYS (1723)

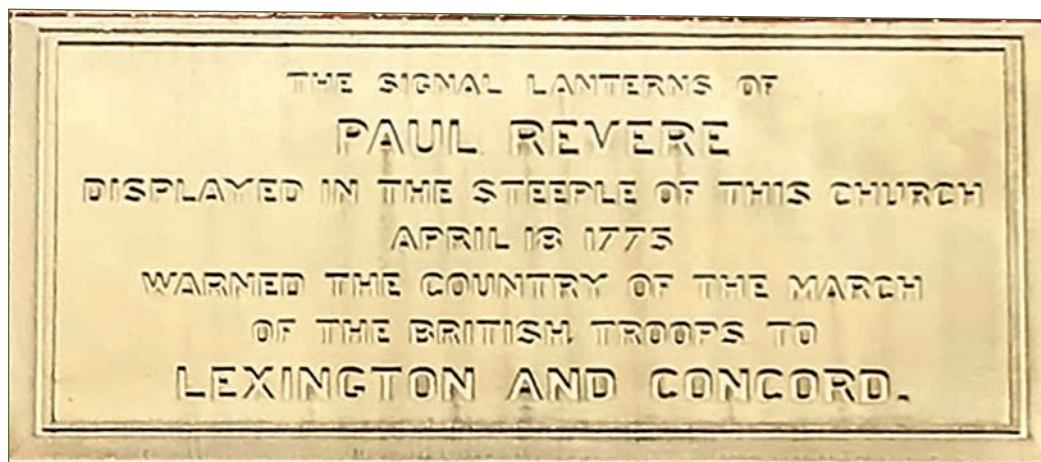
According to a recent article, the famous Old North Church, formally known as the Christ Church in the City of Boston and Boston's oldest, governed by the Church of England, underwent a 21st century restoration to bring its wall-painted sandstone and teal angels back to life. Artist John Gibbs had painted each one in a unique, individualistic and colorful style. But during a 1912 reconstruction, they were whitewashed to comport with the historically-erroneous Puritan style, rather than updating the colorful style that had actually been enjoyed by the Founding Fathers almost two centuries earlier.

The restoration of the Old North Church and its interior angels is of great historical importance and interest because, before Paul Revere's midnight ride on 18 April 1775, the church sexton hung two lanterns in the church's steeple to alert citizens that the British were on the move. As we all know, Paul Revere's ride was immortalized by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem, which referred to those lanterns in the steeple. The steeple was been destroyed and rebuilt more than once, falling to hurricanes and other acts of God. The church was a favorite, back in the day, of young merchants, sea captains, and Boston's prosperous but less-elite citizens. Huguenot descendant **Paul Revere** was a bell-ringer there, and Huguenot **Peter Faneuil** donated to its foundation, particularly the steeple. Yes, he and many of our Huguenot ancestors participated in the slave trade and/or owned slaves back in the day, but perhaps we can forgive this today in light of the numerous and enormously-important good deeds they did to assist with the founding of America.

During America's 1975 Bicentennial Celebration, President Gerald Ford visited the Old North Church, and made a lovely speech:

*Let us pray here in the Old North Church tonight that those who follow 100 years or 200 years from now may look back at us and say: We were a society which combined reason with liberty and hope with freedom. May it be said above all: We kept the faith, freedom flourished, liberty lived. These are the abiding principles of our past and the greatest promise of our future.*

Afterward, two lanterns were lit by descendants of the original sexton who had illuminated the vital originals in 1775, and President Ford lit a third one which, according to information, still hangs in a window today. [Sources: *cbsnews.com*, accessed 12/27/24; *Wikipedia.com*] Many thanks to NHS's IL member Glen Bower for bringing this important item to the Editor's attention.



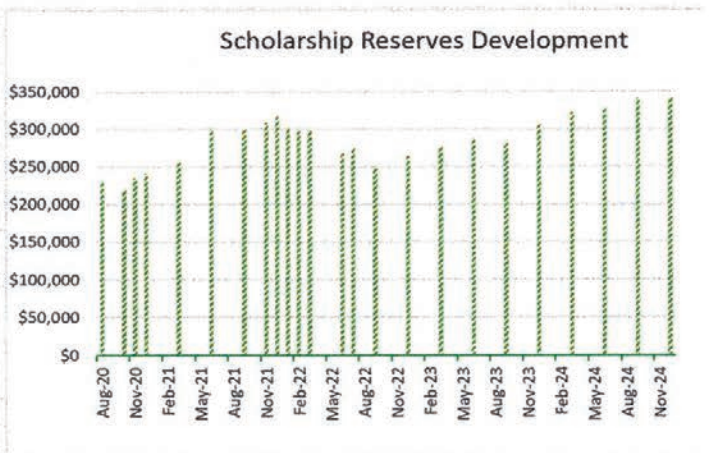
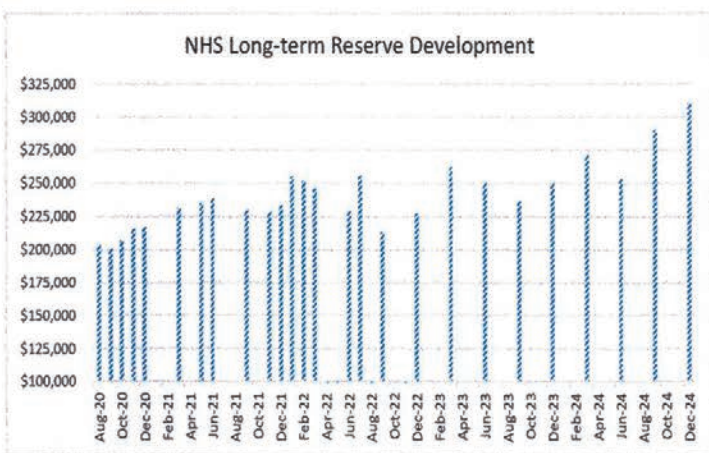
# FINANCE

Financial markets continued their remarkably strong performance through year end, significantly impacting the National Huguenot Society’s finances for the year. The Finance Committee is dedicated to collaborating with the Treasurer General to prepare financial reports each quarter, highlighting year-to-date results. We are pleased to outline major developments for 2024 through the end of the year.

Since the end of last year, the Society’s overall resources have increased by 12.7% to \$692,004. This includes an 11.9% increase in our Scholarship reserve to \$342,126, an 8.7% increase in our General Purpose endowed reserves to \$38,869, and a 24.2% increase in our unencumbered reserves to \$310,321.

NHS Balance Sheet					
12/31/2024					
-----12/31/2024-----					
Assets	Restricted <sup>3</sup>	Unrestricted	Total		Reserves <sup>2</sup>
For Scholarships:				Scholarship Reserve	\$ 342,125.70
Dickey Fund	\$ 253,288.95		\$ 253,288.95		
LLW Scholarship Assist Fund <sup>4</sup>		\$ 46,562.68	\$ 46,562.68		
General Scholarship Fund		42,274.07	42,274.07		
For General Purposes				General Purposes Reserve	\$ 38,869.12
Endowment Fund		\$ 13,174.42	\$ 13,174.42		
Dr. Farrar Scholarly Works Fund	5,673.66		5,673.66		
Lewis Fund	20,021.04	-	20,021.04		
Operating funds				Other Reserves	
Investment fund		\$ 265,725.40	\$ 265,725.40	Dissolved State Society	\$ 687.42
Liquidity fund <sup>1</sup>		45,283.50	45,283.50	Long-term Reserves	310,321.48
Total assets			\$ 692,003.72		\$ 692,003.72

<sup>1</sup>Vanguard liquidity of \$13,650.26+ Wells Fargo & Chase Balances  
<sup>2</sup>Fund balances  
<sup>3</sup>Designated as Permanently Restricted  
<sup>4</sup>Lois Leffler Walker Scholarship Assist Fund from Huguenot Society of Connecticut, initially for college text books.  
 Restricted funds are defined by the legal granting documents, whether from a foundation or individual donor.



## Finance Committee Report Continued

The operating results of the Society reflect the continued sound treasury management of our Treasurer General for 2024 and are detailed in a separate submission by the Treasurer General. Financial activities have expanded for ongoing programs, including the Lois Leffler Walker Scholarship Assist fund and the Dr. Gresham T. Farrar Scholarly Works program. Several State Societies have supported our scholarship programs with designated gifts.

The National Huguenot Society continues to maintain robust reserves to support our long-term operations and success. While the equity markets performed well throughout 2024, the economy and financial markets face uncertainty in 2025. Key concerns include the impact of policies of the new administration on the economy and financial markets, the Federal Reserve's ability to achieve sustained economic strength with low inflation, the global economy's adjustments to disruptions in energy and commodity markets due to geopolitical conflicts in Ukraine, and the conflicts in the Middle East. Financial markets remain focused on the Federal Reserve and their anticipated schedule for monetary easing and now on the fiscal balances of the US government.

Our investments are within the limits of our investment policy, with a higher allocation of 44% to equities, compared to our policy target of 40%.

### **For fixed income, we are below our policy target:**

Vanguard estimates a total return of 11.9% for our invested assets for the year. While we maintain significant

Asset Allocation	Percentage	Policy Allocation
Short term	9.9%	10%
Fixed Income	45.7%	50%
Equities	44.3%	40%

short-term reserves to meet our obligations over the next year, we continue to seek investment opportunities as rates are more attractive. Consequently, we plan to continue to increase our allocation to fixed income.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Joel E. Strauch, CFA<sup>®</sup>**,  
 Chair



## Treasurer General Catherine Paunov, Esq.

### NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT, 2024

This Budget was approved at the Board Meeting, February 2024, which then approved the purchase of insignia and dies from Hamilton Jewelers, not to exceed \$7200. The insignia items were purchased for \$7199.40 on 2/21/24 and the dies were given to the Society and sent to CityPride in Pennsylvania. At the Annual Meeting, October 4, the Board approved spending \$1500 to advertise in other lineage society publications during the current fiscal year.

*Catherine Pennington Paunov, Esq.*  
Member, State Bar of Texas

#### NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY

01/01/2024 to date, Catherine Paunov, Treasurer General  
(Vanguard, Wells Fargo and Chase Accounts)

OPERATING INCOME		Actual 2023	Budget 2024	Income Actual to date	Receipts Actual 01/01/2024 to 12/31/24
Dues	2024 State Dues	\$ 26,644.00	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 26,490.00	\$ 26,490.00
	2024 MAL Dues and KY	\$ 1,352.32	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,074.79	\$ 1,074.79
	2025 MAL Dues			\$ 1,699.84	\$ 1,699.84
Fees	Fees Income	\$ 4,780.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,009.01	\$ 6,009.01
Sales	Book Sales	\$ 1,850.43	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,471.53	\$ 2,471.53
	Store Sales	\$ 1,455.56	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,973.44	\$ 1,973.44
	Lightning Source/Amazon	\$ 693.29	\$ 800.00	\$ 402.57	\$ 402.57
	Insignia		\$ 500.00	\$ 13,466.36	\$ 13,466.36
Donations	Donation income	\$ 1,172.52	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,865.00	\$ 2,865.00
	Pin donation	\$ 72.05	\$ 500.00	\$ 26.95	\$ 26.95
Events	Board Mtg Income	\$ 1,935.07	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,740.00	\$ 1,740.00
	Congress Income	\$ -	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 8,300.05	\$ 8,300.05
Other	Refund from ExtraStorage for overpayments in 2023			\$ 1,420.00	\$ 1,420.00
	Investment Income	\$ 23,621.62	\$ 20,000.00		
	Reclaimed Property*	\$ 687.42			
	Transfer In	\$ 33.33			
	<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 64,298</b>	<b>\$ 64,800</b>	<b>\$ 67,939.54</b>	<b>\$ 67,939.54</b>



		Actual 2023	Budget 2024	Expenses Actual Year to Date	Expenditures Actual 01/01/2024 to 12/31/24
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>					
Overhead	Office Rent	\$ 9,246	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,030.00	\$ 9,030.00
	Office Supplies	491	500		
	Shipping	1,087	2,000		
	Liability Insurance	365	400	370.25	370.25
	D&O Insurance	1,539	1,600	1,539.00	1,539.00
	Other Business Expenses	-	30	58.00	58.00
	Website	191	300	210.00	210.00
	Tax Accountant	1,410	1,500		
Awards	Youth Contest	850	900	1,200.00	1,200.00
	Scholarly Works Award	1,000	1,000	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Dickey Scholarship Award	5,000	5,000	5,000.00	5,000.00
	Lois Lefler Walker Assist Scholarship	1,800	1,800	1,600.00	1,600.00
Insignia and internal awards	Insignia, Internal Awards, Ribbon, Sashes		9,000.00	11,622.20	11,622.20
	Sales Tax remitted	\$ -	\$ -	68.90	68.90
Publications	Cross Printing	15,157	16,000	14,764.68	14,764.68
	Cross Postage	2,113	3,000	2,555.71	2,555.71
	Amazon and Lightning Source Fees		100	178.21	178.21
	Lineage Society Advertising		1,500		
Store	Store Inventory	-	1,500		
	Mailing, Copying, etc.		250	520.01	520.01
Events	Mid-year Meeting Expense	2,840	1,500	2,828.70	2,828.70
	Congress Expense	1,611	5,000	14,577.40	14,577.40
	Speaker fees	930	400		
	Donation Expense	100	435		
Travel Allowance	President	560	1,000	1000	1000
	Registrar	224	500		
	Transfer Out	410			
	<b>TOTAL OPER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 46,924</b>	<b>\$ 64,215</b>	<b>\$ 68,123.06</b>	<b>\$ 68,123.06</b>
	<b>NET INCOME/(LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ 17,374</b>	<b>\$ 585</b>	<b>\$ (184)</b>	<b>\$ (184)</b>
<b>Checking Account Balances</b>		<b>12/31/2023</b>	<b>12/31/2024</b>		
	Wells Fargo	\$ 28,860.44	\$ 6,449.68		
	JPMorgan Chase	\$ -	\$ 25,112.96		
	Cash on Hand	\$ 28,860.44	\$ 31,562.64		
<b>Investment Accounts (Vanguard)</b>		<b>12/31/2023</b>	<b>12/31/2024</b>	<b>Gain/Loss YTD</b>	
	Dickey and Walker Scholarship Funds (70)	\$ 305,658.86	\$ 342,125.70	\$ 36,466.84	
	General Operating Funds, including funds from disbanded state societies (23)	\$ 243,947.36	\$ 274,278.40	\$ 30,331.04	
	General Scholarship Funds, including the Dr. Farrar Scholarly Works Award, Lewis Fund, Endowment Fund (62)	\$ 35,760.38	\$ 38,869.12	\$ 3,108.74	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 585,366.60</b>	<b>\$ 655,273.22</b>	<b>\$ 69,906.62</b>	

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## INSIGNIA

The committee has met 7 times in 2024 and consists of Jo Lee Potts, Chairman; Joyce Ball Patton; Robin Towns; Sumner Huggewell; Peter Adams; and Janet Walker.

On February 23, 2024, we transitioned from Hamilton insignia to a new arrangement. The transition followed several months of discussions with Hamilton and then several emails, a Zoom Board Meeting, and an approval vote by the Board of General Officers. Transition included transferring all of Hamilton's inventory of insignia to Florida, ribbon, and tooling to City Pride LLC in Jenkintown, PA.

The National Huguenot Society has a contract with City Pride LLC. This non-exclusive contract allows the Society to order pins and insignia from other sources if needed. Importantly, should an event arise at City Pride that has a negative impact on the Society, the Society retains control of its tooling. This ensures we can transfer our tooling and designs to another provider without being locked into a new ownership arrangement or needing to repurchase our assets.

Since February 23, 2024, the Society has nearly sold out of its remaining Hamilton inventory. A total of 146 orders have been received and processed during that period. The Insignia Committee has established consistent and reliable procedure to process and manage the process.

Under our mission we provide guidance and follow the updates on the Heritage Society Community website and Facebook pages. We have continued to work on our insignia guidelines book, but it has taken a lesser roll in 2024.

The new Past State President Pin, approved in October 2023, is available for purchase. The next approved pin from October 2023 - is the Dove Sponsorship Pin will be the next pin to go for production with the Years-of-Service pin to follow. Additionally, we have three more pin designs in the works for Congressional approval in 2026.

We currently have one NHS logo charm, "Pamela Wright Charm" remaining. [Update – zero available.] We need authorization to purchase the charm. [ Tabled until April 2025.] The old charms were \$35 price to members. The new price has yet to be determined. The base price of the charm will be a minimum of \$22 then if we allow \$11 postage before package we are already at \$33. The minimum order is 50 charms. It has been more than 10 years since the last batch of charms were ordered. If not approved, the charm will be discontinued.

It is a pleasure to represent the society.

***Jo Lee Potts***  
Insignia Chair

## MEMBERSHIP

The Chair reached out to the state societies, offering assistance in preparation of and assistance with new member applications and research. She continues to communicate with the state societies offering support and answering queries. Many of the smaller societies struggle with dues collection and member retention. It's an honor to serve the National Society.

***Mary Frisch,***  
Chair



## SCHOLARSHIP

Madame President General and National Huguenot Society Board of General Officers,

The Committee's choices for 2024 winners of the Jacqueline Wells Dickey Scholarship and the Lois Lefler Walker Scholarship Assist Award were approved by the Board of General Officers on April 10. Our Jacqueline Wells Dickey Scholarship is a \$5,000 award; this year's Lois Lefler Walker winner received \$1,600.

Our outstanding NHS Scholarship winners were profiled in the Fall 2024 *Cross of Languedoc*. Mr. Jacob Gould (ancestor: David des Marets) received the 2024 Jacqueline Wells Dickey Scholarship. Mr. Gould is a member of The Huguenot Society of Alabama. The Lois Lefler Walker Scholarship Assist Award winner for 2024 is Mr. David Crossan (ancestor: Nicholas Gaylard). Mr. Crossan is a member of The Huguenot Society of Delaware.

For the 2025 NHS Scholarships selection process, the deadline for both applications to be submitted to the Scholarship Committee is February 1. Descriptive information and applications for both scholarships are available on the NHS website.

State Presidents, please advertise these merit-based scholarship opportunities to your state membership!

Because our scholarships are such a significant component of the Society's non-profit service work, we continue raising awareness with a short infomercial in the NHS monthly e-Newsletter as well as with a feature-length article in the *Cross of Languedoc* focused on past winners. The Jacqueline Wells Dickey Scholarship has been awarded since 2002. Honorary President General and current *Cross* editor Janice Lorenz has included a regular column in the *Cross*, a "Where Are They Now?" series interviewing our outstanding scholars about their lives and careers since they became NHS Jacqueline Wells Dickey Scholarship winners. Our first five interviewees were Dr. Joel Wuthnow (ancestor: Jean Bertrand), 2003 winner and a distinguished China scholar at the National Defense College in Washington, DC; Robert Brewton Ryals (ancestor: Francis Fontaine), 2004 winner and well-known public historian in NC and SC; Carrie Chew, (ancestor: Samuel Mortimer Damourvel / Damourville / DeMourvelle / Damourvell), 2005 winner and an attorney practicing with Covington and Burling, LLP in Washington, DC; Dr. Simone Antonia Oppen (ancestors: Pierre and Marguerite Bontecou), 2009 winner and a professor of Classics at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities; and Sarah Renwick Long (ancestor: Joris Jansen Rapalje), 2015 winner and a Senior Data Scientist at FedEx.

This Committee is grateful for generous ongoing support from other Committees. The Finance Committee's diligent stewardship of the endowments which fund these scholarships, the Website Committee which conveys application information to potential candidates, and the *Cross of Languedoc* and the monthly e-Newsletter which each disseminate information about NHS scholarships to our membership; each of these Committees contributes materially to the Scholarship Committee's work. Thank you.

**Spring's On the Way!**



**Mary R. Long,**  
Co-Chair

**Sarah R. Long,**  
Co-Chair

**Jerry Chenault**

**Bernard Hugus**

**Jeremy Smith**

**Shari Worrell**

# WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

June-December 2024

MEMBER SOCIETY	ANCESTOR
<b>Alabama</b>	
Karen Lee Coopwood Shallenberg	Pierre BACOT
<b>Arkansas</b>	
Patricia Ann Love McLemore	Robert BRASSEUR/BRASHEAR
<b>Florida</b>	
Cherie Whittedge Travis-Houghtaling	Jacques de la FONTAINE
Dale Eugene Mausteller, Jr.	Abraham WOTRING
<b>Georgia</b>	
Lynda Nelson Bush	Pierre LÉGER
David Laurence Wellons	Jacques BOURDEAUX
Patricia Ellen Gallagher	Johannes VERMILYEA
Peggy Danette Ware Ozment	Jean BREVARD
Steven Joe Wang	Peter RUCKER
Julia Lynn Palmer Hesler	Gideon MACON
Elizabeth ann Quay Beach	Jan MONFOORT
<b>Illinois</b>	
Nicole Lynn Mauser-Storer	Augustine JEAN
<b>Kansas</b>	
Cynthia Louise Fort	Pierre BACOT
<b>Members At Large</b>	
Brenda Sue Prosser Johnson	Robert BASCOM
Bonnie Lynne Prosser Larkin	Robert BASCOM
Mary Anna King Williamson	Nicolas LANIER
<b>Nebraska</b>	
Cheryl Lynn Anderson Clark	Joris Janszen RAPALIE
<b>North Carolina</b>	
Nikole Madre De Brauwer	Robert BRASSEUR II
James Manly Stallworth, Jr.	Daniel TREVEZANT
Elizabeth Chanel Edwards	Daniel PERRIN(E)/PAREYN
Robert Hubbard Putney III	Charles PERRAULT
Thomas Edwin bishop	Gabriel BOBO/BAUBEAU
Elizabeth Louise Harris Sparrow	Nicolas LANIER
Bexley Jordan Eatmon	Leonard d' AUGE/DOZIER
Bradley Jay Eatmon	Leonard d' AUGE/DOZIER
Andrew Chandler Eatmon	Leonard d' AUGE/DOZIER
David Bryant Gammon	Philippe DuTRIEUX
<b>Oklahoma</b>	
Cleta Lynette Gray Thompson	Guillaume PROVOST
Vanessa Mae Woolley Seward	David DEMAREST
<b>Tennessee</b>	
Arlyn Louzelle Pilcher Cherney	Pierre CRESSON
<b>Texas</b>	
Karen Lee Par Boyers	Abraham MICHAUX
Adrienne suzanne dyess Danke	James BOISSEAU
O K Jones III	Elias BOUDINOT
Holley Mae Robinson Izard	Jean VASSAL
Catherine Anne Heller	Jean/John HENNO/ENO
Patricia Keepbaugh Anders-Fisher	Bourgon BROUCARD/BROKAW
<b>Virginia</b>	
Karen Lee Matusoff Connair	Pierre CRESSON
David Lloyd Peters	Louis MICHELET

MEMBER SOCIETY	ANCESTOR
<b>Washington</b>	
Robert Forrest Doughty	Jacques MAHIEU
<b>REINSTATEMENTS</b>	
<b>North Carolina</b>	
Elizabeth Nicole Sparrow	Jean de La PIERRE
<b>SUPPLEMENTALS</b>	
<b>Illinois</b>	
Sonja Jean Saether Hayes	Mary BLANCHAN Crispell
<b>JUNIORS</b>	
<b>North Carolina</b>	
William Madrey DeBrauwer, Jr.	Robert BRASSEUR II
<b>YOUTH REGISTRATION</b>	
<b>Georgia</b>	
Jacob Steven Wang	Peter RUCKER

## OUR DEARLY DEPARTED HUGUENOT BRETHERN

Arkansas

**Exine Strang Bellamy**

Florida

**Patricia Ann Dunlap**

Georgia

**Natalie Brewton Barfield**

**Frederic Clarence Beil, III**

Illinois

**June Chapek**

**Grace Bliss Smith**

Members at Large

**Cynthia Collin Stong**

Missouri

**Amos Overton Durrett**

**Karen Lea Hill Walker**

**Phyllis Raylene Cornine**

North Carolina

**Dudley Michael Marchi**

**Joanne Reese Thompson**

Pennsylvania

**Sally Suppes Ashman**

**Robert Mann Kline**

Texas

**Marjorie Amonette Chambers**

**Corinne Cowan Staacke**

Washington

**Dorothy Marion Barras Hayden**

**Charlotte Anne Plummer Medlock**



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?" SERIES

### A Conversation with Joseph Preston Holland, A Past Jacqueline Wells Dickey Scholarship Winner

By Mary Long, Scholarship Committee Co-Chairman

*Joseph is a 2008 Winner of the National Huguenot Society's Jacqueline Wells Dickey Scholarship while he pursued his Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Alabama. Today, he is a senior Air and Missile Defense Engineer and Manager focused on Ballistic Missile Defense Systems.*

*Interview by Mary Long, Co-Chair, NHS Scholarship Committee*

**ML:** Please share what you are doing today in the Ballistic Missile Defense Systems industry. Your career continues to evolve as technology and global situations develop. Would you please share how you arrived in your current role?

**JPH:** The quick summary is that I am an Air and Missile Defense engineer with experience as a civilian at the Missile Defense Agency and over 10 years of contract support to the government in multiple roles supporting Missile Defense at all echelons. I am presently a Senior Engineer and manager at Monte Sano Research serving as a Systems Engineering and Technical Advisory (SETA) role at Redstone Arsenal's (Huntsville, AL) DEVCOM Aviation and Missile Center (AvMC).

**(ML: Yes, Joseph is also fluent in speaking in acronyms! You will trace many through in this profile! Readers, please feel free to make notes if you need to...)**

While enrolled at the University of Alabama studying Aerospace Engineering, I was selected as the National Huguenot Society's 2008 Jacqueline Wells Dickey Scholarship winner. Upon graduation in 2010, I moved my young family to Huntsville, Alabama, to begin my career with an opportunity to participate in the Missile Defense Agency's (MDA) Career Development Program (CDP). The CDP program provided me with an opportunity to be exposed to numerous engineering functions at MDA in a short period of time, supporting the Test Directorate as a test planner and then as an analyst for the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) program. I ended his time as a CDP serving a rotation under the Engineering Directorate's Chief Engineer, which allowed me to be exposed to the engineering process at the highest levels of the agency.

Shortly following the two-year rotational CDP program, I accepted an opportunity to do hands-on work as a contract support to MDA at the Sensors Test, Analysis, Requirements, and Simulation Lab, or STARS Lab. This Army lab provides the MDA with test and analysis capability to do early checkout of MDA radar software, as well as verification and validation of both the tactical radar software and the models and simulations that stimulate the tactical software. There, I led teams performing independent assessment of the THAAD radar and other MDA radar systems while working closely with the prime contractors to verify findings and implement fixes in their software. I served in this role for over eight years before transitioning to my present role.

In my current work, I serve as the SETA team lead for the AvMC's Air and Missile Defense (AMD) Science and Technology (S&T) portfolio. This role is broad in scope and requires technical capabilities in conjunction with strategic coordination with numerous stakeholders, including Air Defense subcomponent Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), warfighter representatives, higher level Department of the Army decision makers, Program Managers at other Army organizations, as well as industry partners who collaborate on technology development efforts. My team works closely with AvMC civilians to distill AMD S&T objectives and priorities, then execute S&T project activities to achieve new Army Air Defense capabilities.



Joseph Holland and his grandmother,  
Mary Moody Holland

Additionally, I serve as a manager at Monte Sano Research and performs both program development and government relations roles on behalf of the corporation. I am married to my high school sweetheart, Amy, and we have three children, Jackson (18), Harrison (11), and Kate (9).

**ML: How did you become interested in this very specialized national security activity? Of particular interest to NHS members who attended the October 2022, Congress in Huntsville (aside: Thank you again, NHS Alabama, for the amazing tour of the NASA facilities!), Joseph entered the field when he was selected as a NASA Academy Research Associate at Marshall Space Flight Center for the summer of 2008.**

**JPH:** Looking back at my career path thus far, it is blatantly obvious to me that the Lord has guided my path. I couldn't and wouldn't have mapped it out to where I am now, but it is so clear to me that God has me on a path that is for my good and His glory. I'm so thankful for that truth. I was a bit of a space nerd growing up. I remember watching the movie Apollo 13 and being fascinated by the challenges and the ingenuity which got the astronauts home safely. I always loved science, math, and NASA, so I studied aerospace engineering. I once considered changing majors, but my mentor, Dr. Freeman at the University of Alabama, dissuaded me. He told me that the degree would prove to potential employers that I knew how to think, reason, and that I could do the technical work necessary to get such a challenging degree. He was also correct when he advised, "Your career is going to take on a life of its own as you get in to work."

I completed my degree in 2010. My wife and I started our family while in college. Our son's birth was a major deciding factor in where we wanted to be, close to our families in Gadsden, AL. I started working at the Missile Defense Agency. From that point, my career launched thanks to MDA's career development program. I didn't know at the time how much I would learn in this rotational program. I was able to see the agency from a broad range of perspectives; I performed detailed technical work, programmatic management tasks, and was blessed with the opportunity to work directly for the chief engineer of the Agency. This entry point formed a solid basis for where my career has progressed since. I truly couldn't have mapped my career on my own. The Lord deserves all the credit for any success I've been able to achieve.

I moved to STARS lab engaged in Missile Defense radar systems test and analysis. I quickly became a project lead because I knew how to interact with customers' requirements. During my 8 years there, I had to work through the entirety of the kill chain due to our role doing integrated testing with both command and control and fire-control based laboratories.

I have always been blessed to work with good people and great companies, but in 2021, I had an exciting opportunity to become exposed to a broader mission set with Army Air Defense and to work at for a small company positioned to grow. The work was still in "the family" with Ballistic Missile Defense, effectively performing similar functions at shorter ranges than the systems that Missile Defense Agency is responsible for. I sought exposure to a broader problem set and started working with Monte Sano Research Corporation's Aviation and Missile Center (AvMC) in 2021.

When I look at the past 14 years of my professional career, it is so obvious that the Lord directs our ways and our affairs, and our job is simply to be faithful wherever He puts us. "A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps."

**ML: What has your group learned about the rapidly evolving field of ballistic missile defense from observing the war in Ukraine? I am told that it is harder to intercept a missile than to hit a target. So is air defense always fated to be expensive than offense? The economic force exchange ratio in missile defense is extremely unfavorable: our partners are using \$400,000 Stingers to shoot down \$20,000 Iranian Shahed drones in Ukraine. In the Red Sea, we have destroyers protecting themselves with \$2M SM-2 interceptors against cheap Houthi cruise missiles and suicide drones. This isn't sustainable - we don't spend 20x what Russia does on defense, and we aren't producing Stingers as fast as they're producing Shaheds anyway. Meanwhile, offensive air capabilities have gotten easier and easier to acquire. What do we do about this?**

**JPH:** Ukraine has opened the eyes of the US Department of Defense, if it wasn't beforehand, to the unmanned drone threat. This is a new era with new challenges to traditional air defense. The US has typically gone with exquisite high capability/high-cost defensive systems. It's clear now to our military leaders that we have got to pursue capabilities with a lower cost per shot/cost per kill ratio. We are likely never going to get to 1:1, but we are working harder than ever to close that gap.

Another thing the Army is trying to do is ramp up Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems (C-UAS) capability. There are systems projected to be remarkably more cost effective coming online but which are not highly producible yet. The Army's effort at building up inventory is a priority now.

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Ukraine has shown the capability of relatively inexpensive drones to provide overwhelming numbers of inbounds during a strike situation. The US's exquisite systems are designed for a very different mission space against traditional manned fixed and rotary wing aircraft and ballistic missiles.

One of the most important things that Ukraine has taught us, from a US defensive posture, is the need to make our leaders rethink what to focus on. We need to think much harder about our prioritization of expensive-per-unit exquisite capability vs. creating functional, cost-effective capacity. US defense acquisition efforts have lacked real world experience for so long. We have had a significant lack of boots on the ground ourselves, so seeing what is happening in Ukraine and in the Red Sea is informing our priorities in what we are doing for defense acquisition positively.

**ML: May we discuss challenges in air defense from a structural/organizational perspective? I perceive that the Army has historically thought about missile defense as a dedicated unit task. We had systems and people solely committed to that task, and the average infantry platoon heretofore didn't need to worry about air defense. Now, due on the recent innovation and integration of inexpensive, limited-purpose, efficient drones on the battlefield, which we are seeing all over Ukraine, the average infantry platoon will need to be equipped to handle a potential massed drone threat. What are the solutions there, both technical and organizational?**

**JPH:** When troops encounter UAS threats, there is a blurred line between where you need a uniquely trained Military Operational Specialty (MOS). Within the Army, a soldier earns series 14 certification to be air defense qualified, with significant training required. Thus, you have air defenders, trained, vs. the standard soldier who is not trained as an air defender.

With the unmanned system threat, we are seeing that almost all our warfighters need some level of ability to counter these threats. The challenge is determining what level of capability is safe to provide to all our soldiers, and what level of capability ideally remains with specially trained air defenders. Philosophically, there is a structural, doctrinal line that needs to be considered. We will always need specially trained air defenders to handle long range engagements against the higher end Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) threats while coordinating air space clearance and other more traditional air defense considerations. Complicating all of this are the manpower challenges the military services are facing. However, the average infantry platoon is also going to require C-UAS capabilities. These can be short range interceptors and ballistic capabilities like specially augmented rifles and gun systems, along with non-kinetic (cyber and electronic warfare) capabilities.

The current reality makes evident that creativity is required to set us up for success in this way because of the graying of the line between traditional air defense and a need for broad C-UAS capabilities. Structurally, how should the Department of Defense organize itself to address this? Also, we need to consider rules of engagement for when does the soldier on the ground has the authority to engage. This is not just a technology problem. Who has authority and when? Where is the right line for that? Also – dealing with the UAS threat in large scale combat operations is a very different scenario when it comes to offensive action vs. what we deal with in homeland situations like UAS defense for high profile events (the Super Bowl, etc.).

**ML: Turning to developing new equipment: let's discuss government contracts and the private sector. The Army recently decided to cancel the Future Attack and Reconnaissance Aircraft (FARA). This exemplifies a real-world tradeoff: in order to attract private investment, the government needs to be a reliable partner. However, sometimes the weapon system you thought you needed in 2018 isn't the right one anymore. That said, investors hate uncertainty, and this makes the DoD look less reliable as a customer. Would you please speak to the balance of maintaining private sector investor trust versus maintaining agility in future procurement, especially long-term acquisitions programs?**

**JPH:** For decades, defense acquisitions have been built on "going slow" to design exquisite capabilities for technical overmatch. The proliferation of cutting-edge technologies in the commercial space has closed the technology gap between US defense and the threats we are seeing. Modern warfare scenarios are demanding something different from the status quo.

My AvMC customers regularly receive briefs from industry partners regarding technologies they're developing, often with internal dollars. These industry partners are searching for government offices to come alongside and provide a contract for further development. With the obvious need to counter UAS threats, we have seen a surge of counter UAS capabilities being marketed from industry; some are already obsolete. Non-kinetic solutions like electronic warfare quickly become obsolete; threats continually evolve to counter the counter measures we've developed. Generally, and especially for Army solutions, I see kinetic defeat capability as something that will always be required. This means the ability to bring threat down with kinetic energy, usually a missile/interceptor or a gun. There are plenty of ways to provide countermeasures against a non-kinetic defeat capability, but it is quite expensive to bring down enemy UAS with only kinetic defeat capabilities.

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Back to your original question, these industry partners need clear direction and requirements on what kind of solutions the DoD needs, and then they need a government partner to help field them and sustain them as Programs of Record (PoRs). Not everyone will get there. Some of these partners make internal investment bets that will not pay off. But we have to start with our Department of Defense leaders exercising discernment and wisdom over the course that is set for funding priorities and requirements for what is actually needed. That discernment must be informed by excellent technical people having a seat at the table, and senior leaders implementing the right requirements, funding and schedule to create an environment for success for our material developers.

Our natural bent as humans is to think we know more than we do and want to set our own course. That tendency has proven unwise over and over. We need discerning leaders. Historically, we see that these types of leaders are brought to forefront through trial and adversity. I am hopeful we are seeing that beginning to take shape. We are getting a better sense of capabilities needed for today's threat. Unfortunately, the culture we are in today wants easy success, right now! This is antithetical to what we know to be true through studying history.

**ML: May we further discuss the structure of the supply side of the equation, particularly the interaction of the Primes (traditional defense contractors) vs. Disruptors (newer, smaller, nimble innovators)? In 1993, the Secretary of Defense notified the defense industry that massive consolidation would follow the peace dividend. Now we're realizing that things are too consolidated and brittle - for example, Orbital ATK, one of our only rocket makers, had to sell itself to Northrop Grumman after losing the new ICBM contract. Where does the industry need to head now?**

**JPH:** We are in a period of disruption. Some of the culture commentators I follow talk about AI and what it's going to do from a workforce standpoint. Disruption is always uncomfortable, but we have seen throughout history – computers, cell phones, social media age, now AI – it's going to disrupt things, but we will find our way through it. Some VC-backed smaller producers like Anduril and Blue Halo are seeking to be more nimble and provide an alternative style to materiel development vs. traditional defense contractors. It's a good thing to see people seeking to do things differently and have some different approaches in acquisition competitions. One example is in solid rocket motor manufacturers.

There are multiple companies working to disrupt that industry with novel technologies. It's still in early stages, and there is some interest and investment from the Army. It will be interesting to see if they can be proven to be reliable, reproducible, and have capacity to manufacture in long haul. Often we see technologies that engineers make work in lab with highly skilled individuals having hands on throughout the process, but in order to be highly manufacturable at costs that are affordable we have to take those folks out of the process in time.

**ML: Let's move to the critical materials going into those weapon systems' supply chain and related industrial competition topics. Do you feel we're doing enough to resolve critical supply chain vulnerabilities? What more are we not doing at the government level that we should be doing? Do we even really understand the scope of our vulnerabilities?**

**We're going to need to build large quantities of whatever systems you develop, and we'll need to source key components with minimal supply chain bottlenecks. For example, solid rocket motors in the US are an issue currently in the news. Anduril (a disruptor) bought a solid rocket motor maker because it was the only way to get enough for their new systems.**

**This question has two elements: 1) getting the right quantities and quality at steady state, 2) getting those items from resilient and friendly supply chains so we can continue to replenish in wartime or crisis. Recognizing that you are bound by national security constraints, are there observations that you are able to share with our readers?**

**JPH:** Being on the science and technology side, we are mainly applying early-stage research to component development. Our job is to mature the technology to prepare it for the Engineering, Manufacturing & Development (EMD) phase run by a program acquisition office. I am not qualified to speak to supply chain at scale, but I do have informed observations to share.

I have a deep concern with the level of outsourcing that the US economy has undergone for basic goods vital to our defense materiel development. We need to place a strong emphasis on capability and capacity to produce US defense-critical materiel on US soil. Post-COVID, we see it even in counter UAS; we are struggling from a supply chain perspective to produce capabilities that are already developed and in programs of record. We don't have the ability to produce enough, fast enough, to meet the demand.

Ultimately, we are in a new, scary world where our oceans no longer protect us. I am grateful to know where to find my true source of peace, in Christ.

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**ML: Another element of these supply chains is the industrialists who command them, or, said another way, the rise of the celebrity industrialist in the defense space. For example, Elon Musk's refusal to allow some Ukrainian units to use Starlink has constrained Ukrainian activities. How do we think about supply chain risk for defense from individuals vs. countries?**

**JPH:** Very interesting. One thing about Elon Musk's Starlink is that it is a privately-owned capability provider. He has authority to do with his own property what he wants. This can only reinforce that, from a national defense standpoint, we have to make sure that we own our needed capabilities and aren't beholden to private entities and other countries for what we absolutely need. The choice that Musk made is his prerogative, and whether I agree or disagree is inconsequential. But from a US defense standpoint, we need to own the capabilities that we are using. Some push toward "a service model" is being considered within the counter UAS space where private defense companies are effectively contracted to provide defense at particular fixed sites. There may be some short-term wisdom in doing things like that financially, but to avoid vulnerabilities when it matters most, we have to have/own materiel and production capacity to be our own boss with defensive capabilities.

**ML: "Dual-use" is a big topic in defense today - systems or components with both commercial and military applications. The drones being used at the front in Ukraine are mostly modified civilian tech. We're finding American chips in crashed Russian weapons. How do we make sure that the capabilities that American industry develops to support American defense don't end up in hostile actors' systems - like Tony Stark discovered at the beginning of "Iron Man"?**

Those of us who grew up in the 1960's and 1970's remember all the civilian "progress" both good (focus on STEM education) and mediocre (Tang) that came out of the Cold War and the Space Race. What similarities do you perceive in today's global environment in terms of American achievements becoming more broadly available around the world, and what are the consequences of that dissemination?

**JPH:** I don't know that we can make sure undesirable American technology dispersion can be constrained. We live in an open and free society, and I lament the move of our culture away from "*E Pluribus Unum*" toward "get yours" with everybody seeking their own benefit first. When I think of the 60's and 70's, and the patriotism we showed in the cold war and space race, I don't see that so much today. Where there are negligent and greedy US-based capability developers who are providing technologies and components for sale without considering how they are being used and whether that is in our national interest, I think the US should implement restrictions and prosecute where appropriate. If they are operating in a manner which is detrimental to us and is outside the law, we should pursue them.

The broader thing I am concerned about is our current culture. "Anything that is good for me," is what I am going to do, rather than looking out for my neighbor and being a patriot first. I could see companies being willing to sell to any group overseas if it profits them. We need to be wary of that.

**ML: Science fiction has a way of becoming reality eventually. What could be on the horizon – at least what you can tell us about without compromising national security? One thing I have heard about is directed energy weapons, ranged weaponry that damages its target with highly focused energy without a solid projectile, including lasers, microwaves, particle beams, and sound beams. Or: High-velocity ballistics like railguns? What else can be done?**

**JPH:** There has been a lot of investment in directed energy and some other capabilities in areas which we have previously thought of as sci-fi tech. Physically they are now becoming possible. The Department of Defense needs to invest in these possibilities.

In the here-and-now, we are seeing a limited effectiveness of these types of systems despite decades of investment because while physically possible in a laboratory setting, the more exquisite the application (like directed energy), the harder to put into a real-world situation – a mobile platform's effectiveness is constrained on a bumpy road or in a humid hot environment due to its dependence on its detailed optics. That's just on operational side. We also need to consider the consequences of deployment; how is the enemy going to respond? The enemy's tactics will adjust to overcome our defensive ops. Perhaps a directed energy weapon can burn through an aluminum sheet, but what happens when the opponent counters with extra shielding? I have a whole lot of questions on this topic which often results in me getting back to the investment need for kinetic capacity because we are seeing loss of resources – people, materiel – because we are spending too much \$ on these far-afield capabilities versus funding less glamorous but far more practical weaponry.

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When I see the level of investment in some of these energy weapons, I wish we had invested more resources in other weapons that are already real and can impact the fight in the real time.

Also, we desperately need higher efficiency propulsion. Our solid rocket motors are very similar to what we were making 40 years ago. They solved the chemistry + correct fuel mix equation then, and we haven't improved on it much. For example, I would like to see upgraded propulsion capabilities available to use in smaller forms of countermeasures capabilities where we can get a larger number of our defensive weapons to go after the swarms of attack drones we are seeing.

**ML: What should this conversation include that I have not yet asked you?**

**JPH:** You haven't asked me what the scholarship meant to me. I have been blessed with a wonderful family. My father's mother, Mary Moody Holland (note: in the photo with Joseph), is a prayer warrior and historian. She did all the genealogy which connected our family to our Huguenot ancestor, Pierre LeGrand, and she became aware of the National Huguenot Society and the Jacqueline Wells Dickey Scholarship.

My wife and I welcomed a son into our family when I was in college. It was very financially stressful and to earn this tangible award at just the right time was such a gift. I appreciated not only the scholarship itself but also having the support of an organization to which I have ancestral ties, one which shares my values.

My grandmother was so very proud when I won Mrs. Dickey's scholarship. Our family is so fortunate that my grandmother is still with us. My son, her great-grandson, is the leading candidate in his generation to be the bearer of the family history mantle!

## FRANCE WINS OWNERSHIP OF CAPTAIN RIBAULT'S SUNKEN HUGUENOT VESSEL, *La Trinité*

A judge ruled in 2023 that Captain Jean Ribault's sunken ship and its multi-million dollar treasure from the 16c days of the Huguenot settlement at Fort Caroline, belong to France. The vessel was shipwrecked on the coast of St. Augustine in 1565. Captain Ribault and the other survivors who made it to the shores of St. Augustine were summarily executed by the Spaniards as "Protestant heretics." The sunken wreckage of Ribault's French vessel was discovered in 2016 by American treasure hunters off the coast of Cape Canaveral. The American salvage/research company was led by a Mr. Robert Pritchett--whose surname, incidentally, could *possibly* be Huguenot. Under current American law, a country retains sovereignty of its former warships. Therefore, the legal issues presented were, was *La Trinité* a warship, and if so, under whose flag was it sailing at the time of the sinking.

Although not at war at the time the vessel sank, Spain and France were definitely in a race to establish sovereignty over what is now Florida. In 1562, the Huguenots, led by Captain Ribault from Fort Caroline, had sailed with other Huguenots to establish a colony for France, at the behest of Admiral Coligny and King Charles IX of France, and in 1565, on the night of the sinking, Captain Ribault was headed to St. Augustine with a fleet of vessels to plant a beautiful marble column bearing the arms of France onto the soil, to claim the St. Augustine territory for France. The problem was, Spain occupied much of Florida already, including St. Augustine. Spain had already led an earlier raid on the Huguenots' tiny colony of Fort Caroline, slaughtering the majority, but the Huguenots persisted there.

The court ruled that the treasured contents of the Ribault vessel's estimated \$500M historic contents were French because they included a marble column showing the King's coat of arms and bronze cannons with French-style fleur-de-lys. The court ruled that the ship was Captain Ribault's, and was thus a French military vessel as a matter of law. The next issue was whether it could be said to have been on a military mission on behalf of France at the time of its sinking. The court ruled that Captain Ribault had announced to the commander of Fort Caroline before he left that he was going to attack the Spanish. Moreover, since France and

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Spain were indeed engaged in an ongoing dispute over whose territory the area was, even though it was not a full-out war, the court considered the vessel to have been on a non-commercial military operation on behalf of France at the time it sank.

The hard work of the American company was apparently all for naught, unless there are legal proceedings and discussions occurring behind the scenes that are not currently known to the public.

*Source: cbsnews online, accessed 1/6/2025.*

## BOOK REVIEW

**Mrs. H. A. Clark, *Pro Christo: The Story of a Royal Huguenot* (New York: The American Tract Society, 1898), 334 pages, two plates**

*By Sumner Hunnewell, Historian General & Webmaster*

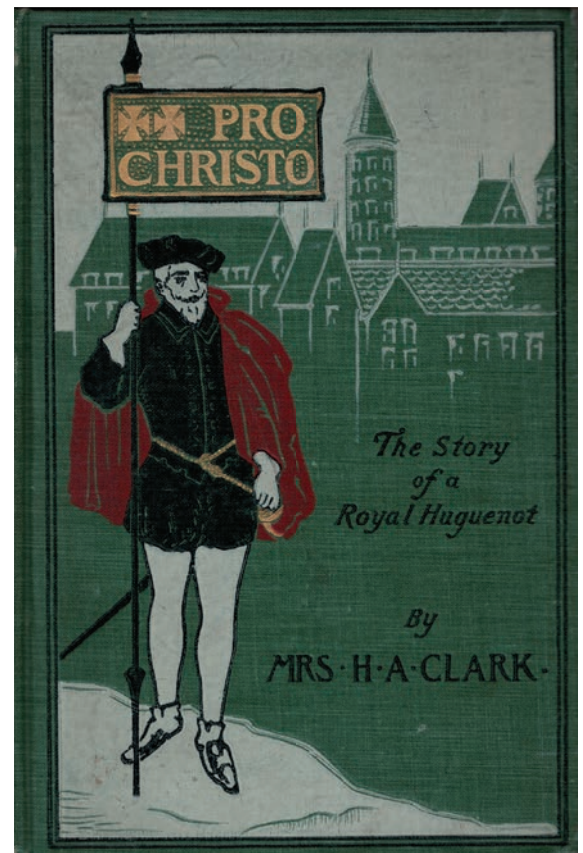
Certainly, one way to tell the Huguenot story is through historical fiction. Mrs. Clark intertwines the stories families who lived in the rugged mountain ranges of the Cévennes before and after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685.

The title's subject is the young, rash, and martial-minded Marquis (a royal Huguenot in name only). He declares his motto is *Tien ta foi* (Preserve thy faith), while one wiser than him attempts to dissuade the Marquis from his ways and take up the motto *Pro Christo* (For Christ). The Marquis finds himself arrested, which almost brings his young family to renunciation and ruin. Jailed and living in misery allows time for reflection and eventually leads him to the Christian faith.

Other than being the story of the persecuted Huguenots, the story explores the various qualities exhibited by the characters. We have traitors and the saintly, those who put their faith in force of arms to stop the encroaching persecution and others who place their faith in God completely to see them through, those who are tolerant and others who are full of hatred towards the Huguenots. The main theme in the book could be summarized in a passage from Paul's letter to the Romans "If *we be children, we are also heirs, even the heirs of God, and heirs annexed with Christ: if so be that we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified with him. For I count that the afflictions of this present time are not worthy of the glory, which shall be showed unto us.*" (8:17-18)

There is very little that might be considered rosy throughout this story (although there are many love stories from the first page to the last). Many Huguenot martyrs fall to the King and his Jesuit allies through the most horrid atrocities, while others hide or flee for their lives. The Abbé Fènelon is the only sympathetic Roman Catholic in the story, while Father Ignatius is as conniving a character as you can hope to find. Certainly, Providence plays a part in all of the characters' lives, which lead some to repentance and others to joyful reconciliation.

Although published over 125 years ago, this is certainly worth reading. Copies of the book can be found second-hand and online.





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700 New Hampshire Ave., NW #520  
Washington DC 20037

Publisher: Vossburg & Associates Graphic Communications  
Greensburg, PA 15601 • Lexington, NC 27292