



HASBROUCK FAMILY

ASSOCIATION

# JOURNAL

PO Box 176, New Paltz, N Y 12561-0176

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As HFA heads into its 54<sup>th</sup> year, it is worthwhile to review what happened in 2010, some of which is still continuing this year. In summary,

- 1) *The Gathering* of all the family associations for the first-time ever was a spectacular success and the most memorable event on Huguenot Street in years. Careful planning and a fascinating, varied weekend program allowed members of the various families to interact with one another while being educated and entertained at the same time. (See photo show on our website.) Kudos to the HHS staff and family volunteers responsible for this terrific event!
- 2) Our own reunion in October was also an enjoyable experience. (See page 2 and photo show on our website, [www.hasbrouckfamily.org](http://www.hasbrouckfamily.org).)
- 3) HFA established a presence on Facebook and has accumulated around 200 "friends". Please visit our site, contribute some input to it and connect with some of the family members there.
- 4) We made available a variety of items decorated with our family coat of arms for purchase online. See them at [www.cafepress.com/hasbrouckfamily](http://www.cafepress.com/hasbrouckfamily) or by a link on our website to the HFA Store, which also provides access to the HHS museum shop.
- 5) HFA awarded two scholarships to outstanding students who are Huguenot descendants. (See details on page 4.)
- 6) HFA and HHS collaborated to plan and initiate a project to upgrade and strengthen the roof rafters in the Abraham Hasbrouck House. (See more under Our Houses on next page.)
- 7) Ownership of the 1814 Josiah Hasbrouck House (Locust Lawn) was transferred by HHS to Locust Grove, a related site in Poughkeepsie. (See details under Our Houses on next page.)

- 8) HHS Executive Director Eric Roth resigned last summer to accept a position at Orange County Community College. Christina Bark, experienced with organizations in transition, switched from HHS trustee to interim director and has swiftly become adept at managing the complex operation of HHS in a challenging environment. By invitation she has interacted with the HFA directors at their last two meetings and addressed our annual reunion. We are working with her and President Mary Etta Schneider to carry on a mutually supportive relationship with HHS.

Looking forward, what we need most is more active participation by you members. All our activities are being conducted by just a few people. We could do much more with your help. You don't have to be near New Paltz. With phone and internet anyone anywhere can participate. Please contact us if you're willing, and together we'll come up with something helpful that you can enjoy doing.

Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr.

## OUR HOUSES



Newly installed shutters on south side of Abraham Hasbrouck House

Abraham Hasbrouck House: The major project to improve the strength of the roof rafters and their support system is nearing completion (see photos from Jan. 22) and will probably be completed by the time you receive this newsletter. It provides a long-lasting replacement for the temporary support system installed hastily when dangerous cracks in the rafters were discovered in 2003. Completion of the project clears the way to start on the major restoration work to transform this house into a period showcase equal to the beautifully restored Jean Hasbrouck House. Near-term projects include plaster repair, interior painting and re-creating two partition walls from an earlier era, consistent with the selected interpretation period of 1760-75. Meanwhile a task force with joint HHS/HFA representation will be working out the details of the interpretation and furnishings plans. With all this activity going on, the house will not be open for tours this year.



HFA Consultant Neil Larson with new north-section rafter supports



Examining new rafters in the center section of the Abraham House:

(L-R) HHS Director Christina Bark; HFA Directors John Delamater, Robert C. Hasbrouck, William Hasbrouck

Jean Hasbrouck House: Plans for this year include exterior painting of the casement windows in the restored north wall and installation of transom windows above the rear (west) door. The major effort will be to develop a detailed plan (including cost) for the roof replacement, which is growing increasingly urgent. HHS expects to have a major fundraising campaign for the roof in 2012 with installation following in 2013 (contingent on successful fund raising).

Josiah Hasbrouck House (Locust Lawn): As expected, the formal transfer of Locust Lawn to Locust Grove was finalized in October, thus relieving HHS of a property it was unable to support properly. Locust Grove in Poughkeepsie is a related property which had common ownership by Hasbrouck descendant Annette Young until she gave Locust Lawn to HHS in 1958 (see article in September '08 newsletter). Locust Grove has the interest and the financial strength to maintain/restore Locust Lawn and display it to the public as the 19<sup>th</sup> century gem which it really is. HFA will maintain a supportive relationship with Locust Grove management, including modest financial contributions to the restoration efforts there. Notable among projects planned for this year are reinstallation of the shutters, construction of a caretaker apartment in the kitchen wing, expansion of the parking facilities and obtaining permits for hosting social events there. Learn more about Locust Lawn at [www.locustlawn.org](http://www.locustlawn.org).

## ANNUAL REUNION



Gathering for the reunion

For the fifth consecutive year the weather gods delivered a sunny, mild autumn day for our October annual reunion on Huguenot Street, thus atoning for the all-day deluge we experienced in 2005. Our attendance dropped to 23 from 45 last year, but those who came had a full and rewarding day, starting with socializing over continental breakfast at Deyo Hall. At 10AM we were briefed by HHS President Mary Etta Schneider and Executive Director Christina Bark on what's happening and planned on and around Huguenot Street. At 11AM we had our traditional service at the French Church. The harpsichordist forgot to show up, but we did a surprisingly good job at singing the hymns a capella style. Afterwards we moved next door to the Le Fevre House to view the portrait exhibit installed there in August. It is of particular interest to our family since it is heavy with Hasbroucks, who are featured in nine of them (including three wives).



HHS Curator Leslie LeFevre-Stratton explains two Hasbrouck portraits: Abraham J. (left) and his son Jansen

This was followed by on-site updates at the Jean and Abraham Houses, after which we returned to Deyo Hall for a group photo and a hearty lunch. Then our guest speaker, Anne Gordon (Ulster County Historian and chair of the Sojourner Truth Memorial Fund), related the surprising story of how civil rights pioneer Sojourner Truth was aided by one of our ancestors. The reunion concluded with our business meeting, the minutes of which are included in this mailing as well as on our website. Please visit our website ([www.hasbrouckfamily.org](http://www.hasbrouckfamily.org)) for pictorial coverage in color of the reunion, including our group photo. Click on the reunion links in the lower left section of the home page.

After the reunion our attendees had the opportunity to enjoy the Celebration of the Arts Festival on Huguenot Street with numerous tents offering a variety of art and craft items produced by local area artisans. Many also visited the HHS Museum Shop, which stocks an enticing collection of history and family-related items. (You can shop there and also at HFA's own store, featuring family-crest decorated items, through links on the home page of our website).



Leslie talks about the upper kitchen in the Jean House

Our reunion this year will be on Saturday, October 8, which is on Columbus Day weekend. Mark it on your calendar and join us to reconnect with your Huguenot heritage and meet some interesting relatives!

### HFA OFFICERS



HFA Directors (L-R): William G. Hasbrouck, Robert Freehill, Robert W. Hasbrouck, Robert C. Hasbrouck, John O. Delamater

Listed below are the officers elected and appointed at the annual meeting:

#### Elected (These comprise the board of directors.)

- Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr., President
- Robert C., Hasbrouck, Jr., First Vice President
- John O. Delamater, Vice President
- Robert H. Freehill, Vice President
- William G. Hasbrouck, Treasurer

## Appointed by the President

Meryl S. Brown, Secretary  
Eleanor C. Sears, Assistant Secretary  
Thad M. Hasbrouck, Assistant Treasurer

The officers welcome your comments and suggestions. Also send in items you would like to have published in the newsletter (space permitting) either by regular mail or e-mail (see addresses on masthead).

## **MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Many members still have not paid their dues for the membership year starting October 1, 2010, and a few are unpaid for longer periods. If you are in this category, you are receiving a reminder insert in this mailing indicating the details. Please continue to support your family association; we need you!

## **SEE HHS COVERLET EXHIBIT IN PERSON OR ONLINE**

HHS and the Samuel Dorsky Museum at SUNY New Paltz have collaborated to produce an exhibit (titled *Bionic Visions*) at the museum, featuring 19<sup>th</sup> century woven coverlets from the HHS collection, including two which belonged to Hasbroucks. The patterns of the coverlets are quite intricate (see photo), and different styles are represented. The exhibit will close March 13; so if you are in the New Paltz area, plan to see it soon. And if you are not there, you can still see it online at [www.hrvh.org/exhibit/hhsbinary](http://www.hrvh.org/exhibit/hhsbinary). This internet version will remain open and will expand to include additional coverlets and possibly other items from the HHS collections.



Hylah Hasbrouck Coverlet (1834)

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

HFA participates in the HHS college scholarship program. The two top-ranked candidates earn \$2,000 Gertrude Hasbrouck scholarships from HFA while other worthy candidates receive \$1,000 scholarships from HHS. All applicants must be of Huguenot descent. For 2010 there were 17 qualified applicants, and 6 awards were made. Although they all have outstanding academic records, the winners are a diverse group, each majoring in a different field at different colleges.

Both of the Gertrude Hasbrouck scholarship winners were repeaters from last year. Chelsey Bradley's Huguenot ancestry is from the Gerow family. (Although not original New Paltz settlers, the Gerows were their contemporaries and comprise one of the HHS family associations.) Chelsea is a senior at Virginia Tech and is heading for a career in geriatric care. Already in her freshman year she qualified as a certified nursing assistant and has worked in that capacity in the intensive care unit of a local hospital. She studied gerontology in Sweden and became familiar with that country's comprehensive support system for the elderly. Back in the USA Chelsea won a scholarship that enabled her to travel and study all-inclusive plans for elder care here. She has recently been a clinical research intern at a local medical center and is focusing in her senior year on the physiological effects which intergenerational programming may have on the elderly. She plans to continue on in medical school and is already well on her way to becoming an expert in geriatrics – a specialty much needed to serve our aging population.

Daniel Fourie's Huguenot ancestor (also Fourie) emigrated from France to South Africa in 1689. His father came to America from Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). Daniel is a junior at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and plans to become a mechanical design engineer, like his father. He intends to conceive, design, prototype and create new or improved useful end products for a variety of applications. Reinforcing his mechanical design courses, Daniel has been involved in a number of research projects in that field, and last summer he worked at a robotics firm, developing intuitive user controllers for their products. Beyond undergraduate work he intends to pursue a master's degree in his chosen field.

Two Hasbrouck descendants earned \$1,000 scholarships from HHS. One is Julia Hasbrouck, a descendant of Jean and another repeat winner, now in the fourth of a five-year program at Philadelphia Bible University leading to bachelor degrees in both music

and biblical studies. She was born in Ecuador and has spent considerable time there. She noted the lack of formal music training among the church staff there and decided to combine her love of music and her religious commitment by teaching music at a Bible college in South America. This year she is a teacher's assistant in music theory, helping with classes and gaining some teaching experience. Determined to graduate without debt, she is also working three jobs as well as accompanying soloists and a choir and participating in several clubs, music groups and other extra – curricular events. A determined young lady indeed!

Finally we come to the Bonaparte – Krogh family, descendants of both Jean and Abraham Hasbrouck as well as the Beviere, Eltings and DuBoises. They have a well-developed habit of winning these awards. First there was Mary in 2003 and 04, then Kate in 2005 and 06, and now it's Phoebe's turn. She is a sophomore at the University of New Hampshire and fascinated with food – not so much with eating it herself, but rather how different nutrients in food interact with our bodies, as well as food's still unknown medical, psychological and therapeutic effects. So she is majoring in dietetics with a minor in Spanish and planning to become a registered dietician. She is particularly interested in the concept that cooking holds therapeutic potential to help people with mental disabilities, brain injuries, depression and other emotional stresses. Now there indeed is food for thought!

This year's award winners comprise a diverse group with a wide variety of interests. They all have one thing in common, however: the pursuit of excellence, and they are achieving it even before they graduate. We extend our best wishes for continued success to all these outstanding students.

### **JUDGE GILBERT D. B. HASBROUCK AWARD**

In 1997 HFA agreed to sponsor this award established by the Esopus-Port Ewen Library to recognize significant contributions to the library in the areas of preservation, growth and development. The award commemorates a distinguished family member (see HFA Journal of February 1998 for a biographical sketch) who in 1939 donated the impressive house in which he was born to the library, which occupied it for 68 years. The award is represented by a plaque on display at the library with recipients' names, plus a commemorative gift to the recipients. The award is made only when a worthy candidate is identified. The 2010 award went to James Dwyer, who was elected to the library board in 2004 and was involved in the construction of the new library building. He was

instrumental in creating a “green” building by utilizing geothermal heating/cooling and solar panels as well as using formaldehyde-free materials. The award was presented on behalf of HFA by VP-Director Robert Freehill at a dinner ceremony in November.

### **HARRIET HASBROUCK AND CAMP SHANKS**



Harriet Hasbrouck – 96 since November

At 96, Harriet Hasbrouck (an 8<sup>th</sup>-generation descendant of Abraham Hasbrouck) is one of our oldest – and most long-standing members. She has lived her entire life in Nyack, NY (near the west end of the present-day Tappan Zee Bridge across the Hudson River about 15 miles north of New York City). She has been in the same house since 1923 after being born in the house next door in 1914. Her home, built about 1886-9, is now one of the oldest in Nyack. She has outlived three of her younger sisters and could become our next centenarian. Age has slowed her physically but not mentally, and she supplied many details for this article.

During her working years Harriet had a series of secretarial/clerical jobs. Before World War II she worked for the local electric company, Rockland Light and Power (now Orange & Rockland Utilities). In 1942 she joined the war effort with a secretarial job related to the construction of Camp Shanks at Orangeburg, close to Nyack, which became the largest staging area on the East Coast for sending troops to North Africa and Europe. The camp was fittingly named for General David Shanks, who commanded the Port of New York during World War I and sent hundreds of thousands of “doughboys” to fight in Europe as well as welcoming them back after the war.

This was a huge project: 2 1/2 miles long, one mile wide and covering 2,040 acres. The site was chosen because of its close proximity to the New York City docks by rail, road and the Hudson River. In 1942 the land was mostly farms, simplifying the job of converting it into a bustling city of transients, but around 130 farms were uprooted to make room for it. The urgency of the project was obvious with the war going badly and our beleaguered allies in need of immediate reinforcements. The camp was constructed by 17,000 workers within a few months in the fall of 1942. It contained 1,800 buildings, consisting of barracks, administration buildings, PX stores, chapels, a laundry, bakery and a hospital. It was built to hold 50,000 people at a time. It had its own baseball team, newspaper and symphony orchestra, which hosted such guests as Oscar Levant, Frank Sinatra and Jimmy Durante. Boxing great Joe Louis was assigned there to provide physical training and boxing exhibitions for the troops. The camp opened in January 1943, and Harriet transferred to an administrative unit there called the Returns Section, which processed daily reports from each unit at the base showing the current status of all its members. Her section also kept a record of each soldier who processed through Camp Shanks, and that was a daunting task because the total number added up to more than 1.3 million! It included elements of 12 infantry and 5 armored divisions. Harriet particularly remembers the men of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, which was in the forefront of the Normandy invasion and distinguished itself in subsequent fighting as well. "They were a rough, tough bunch of guys. You wouldn't want to mess with them," she recalls. The Germans learned that lesson soon afterward.



Camp Shanks

The camp had seven staging areas, including one for WAC's (Women's Army Corps) and one for medical units headed overseas. (WAC's also provided

much of the ongoing staff for the base. About 400 of them filled positions ranging from clerk to mechanic to warehouse staff to armorer. Harriet and her co-workers remained civilians, but their boss was a WAC officer.) One of the primary functions of the staging areas was to ensure that each soldier and WAC left fully equipped before crossing the Atlantic. Some troops were there for a week or two, others only for several days. There was constant activity at the camp. The urgency of the war situation made it crucial to keep the flow of troops moving, and that meant long working hours for the Camp Shanks staff. Harriet's section worked seven days a week, sometimes with overtime, and there were no vacations or holidays except half a day at Christmas! Her mother rented a room in their house (a day or two at a time) to soldiers' wives who had come to spend a few more hours with their husbands before departure.

Multiple embarkation points helped speed the movement of the troops. Some units marched four miles south to the mile-long deep-water Hudson River pier at Piermont, where they boarded troop ships. (The pier was nicknamed "Last Stop USA.") Others boarded nearby trains for a short trip to the docks at Weehawken and Hoboken, NJ, where ferries transferred them across the Hudson River to waiting troop ships at Manhattan piers. Some lucky ones wound up aboard the ocean liners that were converted to wartime service, the fastest and most famous being the Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth. The volume of troops passing through Camp Shanks averaged 40,000 per month but increased steadily to a peak in October 1944 with 78,354 arrivals and 85,805 departures. But by the end of November 1944, processing for Europe was halted for all US staging areas. By that point all the units had arrived, and shortages and replacements could be handled from supply depots in England.

But Camp Shanks continued to be a busy place. Wounded GIs sent back from Europe were processed there. 1,200 Italian and 800 German prisoners of war (POWs) were sent there for internment and used on labor details. Harriett says there were no escapes. The prisoners were well treated and caused no trouble. Shortly after the war in Europe ended (May 1945) the processing started again in the other direction. At first the troops were being rerouted to the Pacific, but that ceased with Japan's surrender in August. Most of the returnees were then processed for discharge and an eagerly awaited return home to their families and interrupted civilian lives. More than half a million troops landed back at the Piermont pier on their way to Camp Shanks and ultimate discharge. (The pier is still in

recreational use today with a plaque at the entrance marking its wartime use.) Shortly after the war's end Harriett was finally given a day off! She and a co-worker took a cruise on the Hudson River. She still vividly remembers encountering a returning troopship, its decks packed with wildly cheering and celebrating soldiers, and the glow of pride and satisfaction it gave her for her own small contribution to this massive war effort.



Returning troops disembarking at the Piermont pier

There was still an eastbound flow of people too. Camp Shanks served as a major processing center for returning POWs and sent 290,000 of them back to their native countries. The last one departed on July 22, 1946, after which the camp closed. The buildings were converted into emergency housing areas for student war veterans. It reopened in this capacity in September 1946 under the name of Shanks Village, which survived until 1956. All that remains today is a small museum, opened in 1994 at the intersection of Routes 303 and 340 in Orangeburg. (Call 845-638-5419 for specific museum information).

Harriet Hasbrouck worked at Camp Shanks from its beginning right to the very end in 1946. Afterwards she had a job in NYC with the Red Rose Tea Co. for 3-4 years until she tired of commuting there from Nyack. She then took a secretarial job with Lederle Laboratories (now part of Pfizer) in Pearl River and stayed with them for 27 years until retiring in 1976. Meanwhile she was recruited for HHS and HFA by Helene Anderson and participated with her and other dedicated family volunteers in caring for and displaying the Abraham Hasbrouck House and conducting family gatherings.



Harriet Hasbrouck in 1978

She was an HFA officer in the mid-1980's and remained a regular attendee at our reunions until declining health limited her travel in recent years. She is still quite interested in ongoing developments on Huguenot Street in general and the Abraham Hasbrouck House in particular, as well as family genealogy. Her 3-year service at Camp Shanks was an intense experience and certainly one of the most interesting and fulfilling in her long life. We are fortunate that it left her with detailed memories she has shared of this mostly forgotten but vitally important aspect of WW II history.

**We welcome our new members:**

- Anna Aschliman, Whitefish Bay, WI
- Kim Close, Clifton Park, NY
- William Dugan, Milwaukie, OR
- Elizabeth Eyer, Midlothian, VA
- Homer Hasbrouck, NY, NY
- Rose Pelphrey, Tampa, FL
- George Pope, Tucson, AZ
- Julia Rumsey, Pine Bush, NY

**We have received notice of the following member death:**

Malvina Hasbrouck



## FINANCES (in \$ thousands)

### 2010 Yearend Assets

HFA Endowment Fund	363	
HFA General Fund (unrestricted)	<u>81</u>	
Subtotal	444	
Helene Hasbrouck Anderson Fund	1,871	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>2,315</b>

### HFA ex-Helene Hasbrouck Anderson Fund

#### 2010 Income (ex-capital gains/losses)

Investment Income	28	
Dues and Donations (unrestricted)	3	
Life Dues and Donations (endowment)	4	
Jean House roof donations	2	
Other (book sales; reimbursements)	1	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b> (6 restricted)		<b>38</b>

#### 2010 Expenses

Jean Hasbrouck House maintenance	8	
Scholarships	4	
Other programs*	9	
Accounting fees	1	
Occupancy	5	
Administration	2	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>29</b>

**NET INCOME** **9**

**NET INCOME EX- RESTRICTED INCOME** **3**

### Helene Hasbrouck Anderson Fund (for Abraham Hasbrouck House)

#### 2010 Income (ex-capital gains/losses)

Investment Income	90	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>90</b>

#### 2010 Expenses

Maintenance, preservation	48	
Archaeology (artifact analysis)	28	
Accounting fees	2	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>78</b>

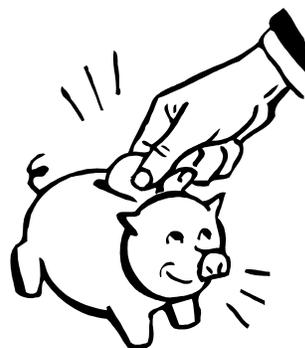
**NET INCOME** **12**

\* Mainly newsletters, website, genealogy and member services

Consistent with a favorable year for the securities market, our finances continued to improve in 2010. They have not recovered to their pre-recession levels, although the Helene Anderson Fund (dedicated to the Abraham Hasbrouck House) is now only 3% below its all-time high. The HFA Endowment Fund gained 7% last year but is still 20% below its cost value.

Income-wise a more fully invested position in income-oriented securities resulted in an 18% increase in dividend/interest income for the Anderson Fund last year. The HFA funds had almost no turnover in 2010, but partial restoration of some earlier dividend reductions produced a modest \$2,000 (8%) increase. However, their total investment income was still 33% below the pre-recession level.

Looking ahead, the Anderson Fund is in good shape with an income level that should be able to fund our extensive restoration/interpretation project for the Abraham House. The Endowment Fund is more worrisome. A continuing economic recovery should help both its asset value and its income (which supplies the General Fund and provides our operating funds). But that is likely to be a gradual process. In the meanwhile, the reduced income level correspondingly reduces our ability to fund our activities and provide an adequate level of HFA support for the Jean Hasbrouck House and Locust Lawn at a time when HHS's strained finances need assistance more than ever. Your contributions are needed to help improve this situation.



## 2010 CONTRIBUTORS

### Endowment Fund

Atkins, Mary Elizabeth  
Duke, H. Benjamin  
Gilmore, Randall  
Hasbrouck, Betty F.  
Hasbrouck, Robert W., Jr.

### General Fund

Atkins, Mary Elizabeth  
Baldwin, Rosemary  
Boehm, Sharon  
Breault, Clarabelle  
Delamater, John O.  
Eckert, Barbara  
Hasbrouck, Betty F.  
Hasbrouck, Donald H.  
Hasbrouck, Jack W.  
Hasbrouck, Phyllis R.  
Hasbrouck, Robert D.  
Hasbrouck, Sherman St. C.  
Hasbrouck, Thad M.  
Hasbrouck, Thomas P.  
Hasbrouck, Warren Robert  
Hasbrouck, William Andrew  
Horton, Ann  
Patterson, Mary  
Sears, Eleanor  
Smith, Caroline V.  
Vilmar, Dorothy

### Jean Hasbrouck House Roof

Atkins, Mary Elizabeth  
Cheffy, Frederick G.  
DeNaples, Mary  
Eckert, Barbara  
Forristall, Jean Hasbrouck  
Harbaugh, Lura Jean  
Hasbrouck, Betty  
Hasbrouck, Donald H.  
Hasbrouck, Elizabeth  
Hasbrouck, Jack Wade  
Hasbrouck, Paul M.  
Hasbrouck, Robert C., Jr.  
Hasbrouck, Robert W., Jr.  
Hasbrouck, Thad M.  
Hasbrouck, Warren Robert  
Hasbrouck, William G.  
Mac Williams, Bruce Newell

### Jean Hasbrouck House Roof (continue)

McCollum, Marion  
McKinley, Esther G.  
Monsees, Ralph  
Nichols, Jean Erway  
Quinn, Winona  
Ryan, Elaine  
Sweeney, Marie  
In Memory of Malvina Hasbrouck (received Jan. 2011)

Baker, Mildred  
Callanan Industries  
Laraway, Anita  
Mauriello, Salvatore  
Secor, Thomas  
Stahlman, Norman  
Tshjian, George

**THANKS TO ALL OF YOU! WE REALLY  
APPRECIATE (AND NEED) YOUR SUPPORT!**