



HASBROUCK FAMILY

ASSOCIATION

JOURNAL

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Huguenot Street is open again, and the visitor experience this year will be noticeably different from the past. The interpretation theme for each house will be changed on a seasonal basis, so that repeat visitors will have variety in their tours each time they come. Visitors can see an introductory video at the Visitor Center in the Dubois Fort (which also has the museum shop) before choosing up to five available houses (Jean and Abraham Hasbrouck, Bevier-Elting, Deyo and the French Church) with tours departing every half hour. Each house will be staffed with a guide trained specifically for that house, some in period costumes. The guides will ask questions as well as answer them, providing visitors with an enhanced, interactive experience which encourages them to become more involved in understanding the house interpretations. In addition to these regular house tours, HHS will also offer themed tours (such as archaeology or the role of women) and evening tours (mostly outdoors).

Our reunion this year will provide an especially attractive experience since it will include participation in The Gathering, a special event for all the families of Huguenot Street. (See details in the following article. More will follow by e-mail when available.) This is an unusual opportunity for us, and I urge you to make a special effort to attend and take advantage of it.

We are always in search of family-related stories and happenings like the ones presented in this edition of the newsletter. If you have anything of this nature that might be of interest to our members, please submit it or contact us to discuss it. We need your continuing input to help maintain this newsletter as an enjoyable reading experience.

Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr.

HFA ANNUAL REUNION

Our reunion in New Paltz this year is on Saturday, October 11 and will offer a "double feature" of attractions for attendees. It will be integrated with a weekend event for all the Huguenot Street families called The Gathering. We expect to have most of our usual reunion activities and also to participate in The Gathering, which will highlight our Huguenot heritage with vignettes and speakers as well as music and food of the period. If you are coming from a distance and want to visit Huguenot Street in some detail, plan to spend at least two days here because the reunion and The Gathering will take up Saturday, and The Gathering events continue on Sunday. You may want an additional day on the Street, which is open every day from 10 to 5 (6 on Friday and Saturday). The houses can be visited only on guided tours leaving from the Visitor Center every half hour from 10:30 to 4:30.

If you will be a first-time visitor, contact us to help with your planning. The Hudson River Valley is full of beautiful scenery and tourist attractions; you can easily spend an entire vacation here. Anyone planning an overnight stay should make reservations as soon as possible. The reunion is during the foliage season, and accommodations usually sell out early. New Paltz has three good motels: Super 8 (845-255-8865), EconoLodge (845-255-6200), and Rodeway Inn (845-883-7373). You can also get information on bed & breakfast inns in the area from the Chamber of Commerce (845-255-0243), including a Hasbrouck House B&B (The Inn at Stone Ridge).

HHS is offering a wide variety of other programs and events in the New Paltz area during the year for adults, children and families. You can see the schedule on their website: www.huguenotstreet.org. Bring your HFA (or HHS) membership card whenever you visit to get free house tours and a 10% discount at the museum shop.

OUR HOUSES

Abraham Hasbrouck House

The lighting system in the house has been improved, and solutions to several moisture problems are still being evaluated.

Jean Hasbrouck House

New for this season, the northeast room on the first floor, formerly interpreted as a store (which it was at some point), is now displayed as an office. HHS is still evaluating the contrasting proposals for replacing the roof.

Josiah Hasbrouck House (Locust Lawn)



Locust Lawn tool barn before restoration

The restoration of the tool barn has been completed with dramatic results. (See before/after photos.) Near-term plans for the mansion call for replacing some missing shutters and completing replacement of aluminum storm windows with more appropriate wooden ones. HFA is making a financial contribution to these two projects.

Due to various complications the summer events mentioned in the February newsletter have been canceled. However, the bicentennial anniversary of the house will be celebrated on Saturday, September 20, 5:30 – 7:30PM, with wine and food pairings on the lawn, plus house tours (\$27 per person in advance, \$29 at the event). Call 845-454-4500 for details and payments in advance. Group tours of the house may be arranged (through the phone number above); and if you're a Hasbrouck descendant coming from a distance, they will make an effort to give you an individual tour.



Locust Lawn tool barn restored

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Dues (\$20/year) for renewal of annual memberships should have been paid by October 1, but there are still quite a few laggards out there. If you don't have L (for Life member) or 14 on your mailing label, you're 8 months delinquent by now. But it's never too late to get yourself up to date! We need your support. If you wish to maintain your membership and feel you cannot afford the dues, please tell us your situation and request a waiver. We don't want to abandon members whose current financial condition makes the dues a hardship.

HFA OFFICE

Our New Paltz office is open by appointment only. But if you are planning a visit to the area, leave a message on our answering machine or e-mail (see information on the masthead), and Meryl will contact you to arrange a visit where you can get information, look at our genealogy files and publications, and check our archives. If you are doing family research, you may also want to see what is available in the HHS library and archives. Call them (845-255-1660, ext. 116) to make an appointment.

Our office is just half a mile from Huguenot Street in the Pine Office Center at 124 Main Street. It's across the street from the Citgo gas station and far back from the street, but there is a sign at the driveway entrance, ample parking and handicapped access.

SCHOLARSHIPS

With HFA participation, HHS has a college scholarship program, and now is the time to apply. To be eligible you must be (for the upcoming academic year) a college sophomore, junior or senior and be able to document your Huguenot heritage. The HHS scholarships are for \$1,000, but the two top-rated applicants will receive \$2,000 scholarships from HFA. If you are interested, contact HHS for detailed requirements and an application: (845)255-1660 or www.huguenotstreet.org/scholarships.

HFA DIRECTORS – MINI-BIOS **ROBERT C. HASBROUCK, JR.,** **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**



Robert C. Hasbrouck, Jr.

I am a ninth-generation descendant of Abraham, born and raised in the Park Slope section of Brooklyn, NY. Our line of the family established its roots there when my great grandfather, Dr. Everitt Hasbrouck, moved his medical practice from Modena, NY in 1868. I currently live in Spring Lake, NJ and Plainview, NY. I attended John Jay High School in Park Slope as did both my parents, although during their tenure, its name was Manual Training HS. Subsequently I graduated from the College of Police Science, now John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

My first full-time employment was with Sears-Roebuck at the company's NYC flagship store in Brooklyn. After five years, I left as manager of the Camera and Office Equipment Department to join the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department. I was assigned to John F. Kennedy International Airport and performed patrol and crash, fire and rescue duties. (Officers assigned to New York area airports are cross trained and certified in crash, fire and rescue response.) I requested and received a transfer to the Auto Crime Unit and gained certification as an expert in vehicle identification. Promotion to detective and assignment to the Vehicle Theft Investigation Squad followed. Geographically, this assignment covered the entire metropolitan NY / NJ area.

Early in my career, I joined the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators, a professional organization of law enforcement, insurance, motor vehicle registry, vehicle manufacturer, vehicle rental company representatives and others with a legitimate interest in vehicle theft investigation, identification and prevention. Just over 4,000 members from 40 countries are part of the ten chapters or branches of the association. In 1984, I was elected treasurer of the Northeast Chapter. Since then I have continuously served on the Board of Directors of the NE Chapter, the parent organization or both. I served as president of the chapter from 1991-92 and international president from 1998-1999. Since 2003, I have served as the international treasurer.

Upon my retirement from the Police Department, I was employed at the NY/NJ High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area as the Program Director. Since 2000, I have worked at Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn in an array of roles for a series of contractor companies performing base operation services. I am currently the Project Comptroller for R.B.S., Inc.

Concurrent with my civilian employment, I served in the New York Army National Guard in a variety of positions among wide ranging specialties. Two positions close to my heart were with units of historic significance. I was first sergeant of Headquarters Company, 42d Infantry (Rainbow) Division and a company first sergeant of the 69th Infantry Battalion, more widely recognized as the "Fighting Sixth-Ninth" of movie and NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade fame.

In 1973 Mary E. McMahon and I were married. We had two girls, Beth and Amy. Beth, a registered nurse, is married to Kyle Maurer. They live in Northampton, MA and have four children. Amy, a court reporter, is married to Robert Dell'Isola. They live in East Islip, NY and have three children.

In the mid-1980's, we began to attend HFA reunions, intending to introduce the girls to a part of their heritage. While they seemed to be more interested in the "green Jell-O" we had with lunch in the Dubois Fort Restaurant than they were of any historical exposure, the HFA leadership became interested in me and invited me to join the board of directors. I hesitatingly agreed to "give it a try." Now, after thirty years, including a 3-year stint as HFA President (1991-4), I'm still here. I encourage any readers to "try it;" you may find that you like it!

MORE ABOUT CAPT. JACOB DUBOIS HASBROUCK AND HIS FATHER, COL. JACOB J.



Capt. Jacob Dubois Hasbrouck

Our last two newsletters have featured the life of Jacob Dubois Hasbrouck, especially his Civil War experiences brought to life by letters and other documents sent to us by a descendant, Elaine Ryan, from Greeley, CO. Subsequently, she sent a tin box stuffed with additional Civil War letters, mainly from Jacob to his wife, Rowena Deyo in Highland, NY, near New Paltz. We sent Elaine's entire collection on to HHS for review and proper storage. They reported back that there are 92 letters in addition to the other documents, and they devoted one of their weekly blog issues to the collection. (See it at <http://hhsstreet.wordpress.com/2014/04/16/dear-rowena>.) Meanwhile, another descendant sent photos of Jacob D. in uniform and Rowena, which we have included here.



Rowena Deyo Hasbrouck

Our earlier articles also mentioned Jacob D.'s father, Colonel Jacob J. Hasbrouck, with very little detail. Now we know much more, so this article will focus on his history as a prominent citizen of Highland. A 5th generation descendant of Jean, he was born on Huguenot Street in 1805 and grew up in the stone house built by his grandfather, Major Jacob J. Hasbrouck, in 1786 and then owned by his father, also Jacob J. (The house, at 193 Huguenot Street, is now owned and occupied by HFA member Richard Relyea Hasbrouck.) Jacob went to local schools and at age 18 enlisted as a private in a cavalry company commanded by Capt. John Brodhead. He rose through the ranks and ultimately became a colonel and commander of his

regiment. This regiment was apparently a national guard-type unit, for it did not prevent him from having an auspicious civilian life as well.



Col. Jacob J. Hasbrouck (1805-1892)

In 1829 Jacob married Eliza Ann Cameron. Between 1830 and 1847 they had six sons followed by a daughter. In 1836 they moved a few miles from New Paltz to Highland in the Town of Lloyd. Jacob Dubois, the fourth son, was born there in 1838. Jacob J. received an estate of 500 acres from his father and became a prosperous farmer. He added more land to his holding; and at one time, it was said, he could have walked from the Shawangunk Mountains to the Hudson River without stepping from his property. For a number of years he was the most highly assessed land holder in town.

Jacob was also extensively involved in the community. In the Town of Lloyd (to which Highland belongs), at various times, he held the offices of Superintendent of Highways, Assessor, Pathmaster, and Fence Viewer. In 1844 he donated property to build the First Presbyterian Church, which he attended for many years. He assisted in the building of the Academy in Highland. At the outbreak of the Civil War he participated in the War Meetings and gave speeches encouraging enlistments. In 1865 he presided at the

organization of the Modena Tollpike Company and became one of its directors. He was a booster of a drive to have the railroad pass through Lloyd, and for years he was an active supporter of the Lyceum, a local cultural center.



Col. Jacob J. Hasbrouck's Highland House

In 1846 Jacob built a substantial stone house, which became a town landmark in Highland and is still occupied today (see photo, which reflects some remodeling). His oldest son, Levi, then 16, carried all the mortar for the construction of the three-story house, which has walls, two feet thick, of dressed limestone, quarried locally. Jacob Dubois, born in 1838, must have lived here in his youth.

Jacob J. outlived his wife by 21 years and died in 1892. He was buried in the family plot in the Highland Cemetery. In 1898 the house passed to a different Hasbrouck line when it was purchased by Warren G. Hasbrouck, a seventh-generation descendant of Abraham and, for a time, the postmaster in Highland. After his death in 1928, his widow Mabel continued to occupy the house, which eventually passed to their youngest daughter, Beatrice, born in 1910. In 1935 she married John F. Wadlin, who became Supervisor of the Town of Lloyd and was a NY State assemblyman from 1940 until his death in 1953. "Bea" was actively involved with Huguenot Street and was HFA President from 1979 to 1982. In 1977 the house, at 121 Vineyard Avenue, was sold to John Decker, the present owner, who, like John Wadlin, was Supervisor of the Town of Lloyd (for twelve years). He was also a member of the Ulster County legislature for two years and now owns D+D Auto Supply in New Paltz. The house is on the Ulster County list of historic buildings.

AN OUTSTANDING AFRICAN AMERICAN HASBROUCK

President Robert Hasbrouck reports: Recently I watched one in a series of online interviews in which Ancestry.com discusses the results of its DNA testing on a celebrity. This interview was with Dawn Hasbrouck (see photo), a popular news anchor with FOX News in Chicago. The tests indicated that her ancestry was 24% European. I emailed her to ask whether she could trace the source of her Hasbrouck name, and she referred me to her maternal grandfather, Caldwell Durham, who had been researching this topic. My correspondence with him produced a plausible, yet unprovable link, but left some critical questions unanswered. Mr. Durham traced Dawn's African American ancestry back to Simon Hasbrouck, born about 1795, who in 1840 was living as a free man with his family in the Fishkill, NY area, not far from Ulster County. And he found Tunis Hasbrouck, a 4th generation descendant of Abraham, also living in that area (verified by HFA records). He further learned from census records that in 1820 Tunis had two female slaves and one male. He thinks it likely (and so do I) that Simon was that male slave and that he took the Hasbrouck name either before or when he was freed. (This would have been no later than 1827, when all slavery ended in New York State.) But there is no documentation available to verify this link, logical though it appears.

There are other intriguing elements in Dawn's ancestry. Simon's grandson (1840-1890) was named Dewitt, and her grandfather was Ellsworth – both prominent Ulster County names. But there is no information available on how those names were chosen or whether there was a connection with either of these white families. In fact, the source of Dawn's European DNA remains a mystery since Mr. Durham could find no evidence of it in either her paternal or maternal line.

Whatever her ancestry, Dawn Hasbrouck is an outstanding personality. She was born and raised in Chicago, the result of her grandfather (Dr. Ellsworth Hasbrouck) moving there from New York for his medical internship. A student leader and athlete in high school, she moved on to a bachelor's degree at Duke University and an M.S. in Journalism from Northwestern, where she



Dawn Hasbrouck

belongs to an elite group of mentoring female alumni. Working her way up as a TV news reporter on several stations, she became a news anchor for CBS in Hartford, CT and then in Boston, where as an anchor, she was nominated for an Emmy and named to the "Top 40 under 40" list of the city's most outstanding young business people, based on career accomplishments and community involvement. Four years ago she happily moved back to her hometown of Chicago and an anchor spot at FOX News.

In addition to journalism, Dawn has other talents. She studied music in general and opera in particular for nine years and sang in theater productions, although now, she says, she sings only at home for her two young sons. She enjoys fine arts and is actively involved in community service.

As is evident from the foregoing, Dawn is certainly a credit to the Hasbrouck name. We wish her continued success.

HASBROUCKS AND THE OTHER MANHATTAN ISLAND

Our June '09 newsletter featured an article about John L. Hasbrouck (1813-1895), a prosperous New York City merchant with interests upstate as well, including a summer house on Manhattan Island, one of the Thousand Islands chain in the St. Lawrence River between the U.S. and Canada. Recently we received additional interesting information about the island and its Hasbrouck family connections.



Hasbrouck House (around 1930)

Manhattan Island and its six tiny neighbors (together, the Manhattan Group), are located in American waters, about a mile north of Alexandria Bay, NY. This Manhattan is only five acres in size, but it has been described as “the most elegant among the most beautiful” of the islands. That setting is probably what attracted John L. Hasbrouck to build a summer house on its northern shore in 1871. At the same time James C. Spencer, another resident of the more famous Manhattan, and a prominent attorney there, built a larger house on the southern shore. They had purchased the island from Seth Green, a pioneer in fish farming, who established the first fish hatchery in the U.S., and had a house there. Hasbrouck and Spencer were related by marriage. Spencer’s first wife, Sarah Clark, was a Hasbrouck descendant and relative of John. (She died in childbirth in 1860, and Spencer later remarried.) Hasbrouck and Spencer maintained ownership of the island for the rest of their lives. John died in 1895, and his

property passed to his eldest son, George. George died at age 48 in 1901, leaving the property to his wife, Caroline (Carrie) Sherwood. Soon afterwards, James Spencer died, and in 1903 his wife sold their property to Carrie, leaving her as the sole owner of the Manhattan Group of islands. They remained under the ownership of female Hasbrouck descendants for the next 55 years. Carrie was a summer fixture on Manhattan Island for many years. She considered electricity a dangerous hazard and would not allow it on the island; oil lamps were used for lighting until she died. Her daughter, May, married Lee M. Rumsey of St Louis in 1900 but died in 1909, leaving two young children. A daughter, Helen Lee Rumsey, was apparently raised by Carrie. A surviving caretaker of the property said they were very close.



Main House (around 1880)

Helen married James M. Cox, Jr., the head of Cox Enterprises and Cox Broadcasting, but they were later divorced, and she remarried – with Thomas H. Bennett of Lexington, KY. At Carrie’s death (probably around 1938) the ownership of the island passed to Helen. She installed a large diesel-powered generator to bring in electricity at last. Helen ruled Manhattan Island until her death in 1958, after which it was sold outside of the family, ending an 87-year Hasbrouck family presence there.



Main house today

The history of the island is still reflected in its surviving buildings. No new homes have been built there since John Hasbrouck's and Spencer's in the 1870s. John's house, now known as the Hasbrouck House, is about 2,000 square feet in size and is little changed externally from its original appearance (see photo). The Spencer house, now known as the Main House, was originally more than 10,000 square feet but was reduced to its present size, about 5,500 square feet, by Helen Rumsey after Carrie died. Both properties had ancillary boat houses nearby which are still in use today. The Hasbrouck House is now owned by James Cummings of Atlanta, who owns several other properties on the St. Lawrence and seldom uses this one. Reflecting the recent distress in the housing industry, the Seth Green House was foreclosed last year and has just last month been sold. The Main House has been owned for the last 22 years by Jay Stewart from the Rochester, NY area. Mr. Stewart kindly provided the photos and most of the information for this article – even Hasbrouck family facts which were not in our database. The six neighboring islets were never developed during the Hasbrouck family era, but two now have cottages and one a modern home.

Even more now than in earlier times, the Thousand Islands remain an attractive summer haven for Americans and Canadians alike. You should consider the area for a vacation venue. It would be very fitting to have a Hasbrouck family presence there once more.

HFA RESTORING GRAVESTONES OF LOCUST LAWN FAMILY



Gravestones of Col. Josiah and Sarah Hasbrouck

Locust Lawn, one of the three new Paltz area houses supported by HFA (see Our Houses on page 2) was built by Colonel Josiah Hasbrouck (1755-1821), one of our more prominent ancestors (Revolutionary War officer, wealthy landowner and congressman in the Adams and Jefferson administrations). He and his wife, Sarah Decker (1764-1845), were buried in the New Paltz Rural Cemetery, and we were alerted by HFA member Donna Hasbrouck that their gravestones were in sad shape – no longer upright but flat on the ground with serious cracks (see photo). In response, HFA has arranged to have them restored and replaced upright in their original positions, as befitting such important ancestors. We should be able to show you the results in the next newsletter.

We welcome our new members:

Eugenia Hasbrouck, Highland, NY
Marjorie Hougland, Sierra Vista, AZ

We have received notice of the following member deaths:

Mary Ellen Hasbrouck
S. Henry Peyer