PRESIDENT’S REPORT

By the time you read this we’ll be heading into summer, and the only good thing I can say about this last winter is that it’s finished. It was a severe one here in the Northeast. On Huguenot Street the Deyo, Dubois and Freer houses incurred some damage from ice dams on their roofs. Here in northern New Jersey I incurred some personal damage. On January 18 I stepped off my front porch onto a normal-looking walkway to get the newspaper. In fact, the walkway had a coating of invisible “black ice”. My foot shot out from under me, and before I realized what was happening, I had crashed onto the pavement and suffered a fractured left hip socket. As it turned out, black ice was widespread in the area that day, and there were lots of fall victims, many with broken hips, arms and wrists. A major New York City hospital reported thirty cases in a single hour! Fortunately, I did not require surgery, merely three months of limited activity while the fracture healed itself. Now I’m fully back to normal and happy to be doing all my usual activities again, but with a heightened awareness of the dangers of black ice!

Looking forward to the new season on Huguenot Street, all the houses are open again with adjustments in the tour schedules and content to enable you to have a different experience on each visit. In addition, a schedule of interesting special events is offered throughout the entire year. See the HHS website (www.huguenotstreet.org) for details.

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 10 and will probably follow our traditional format: continental breakfast/socializing in Deyo Hall followed by our business meeting, service in the French Church, tour with updates at the Jean and Abraham houses, lunch at Deyo Hall and an update from HHS along with a talk on a topic of historic interest. If you are coming from a distance and want to visit Huguenot Street in some detail, plan to spend at least two nights here because the reunion will take up Saturday. The Street is open every day except Wednesday from 10 to 5 (10 to 8 on Thursdays). The houses can be visited only on guided tours leaving from the Visitor Center. Visit the HHS website (www.huguenotstreet.org/tour-schedule) to see the various tour options and their times, or call 845-255-1889 for the details.

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: America’s Best Value Inn (845-255-8865), EconoLodge (845-255-6200), and Rodeway Inn & Suites (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

Work should begin soon on repair to the chimneys to correct a moisture problem identified last fall. Possible solutions to other moisture problems are still being evaluated. Plans for external restoration to reflect the period of interpretation (1760-75) have been shelved pending HHS work on a new interpretation plan for Huguenot Street as a whole and how each house should fit into that plan.

Jean Hasbrouck House

HHS is seeking grants to help fund the roof replacement and has been awarded a $10,000 grant from the French Heritage Society. It has also applied for a matching grant from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation but won’t know the result until fall.

Josiah Hasbrouck House (Locust Lawn)

The replacement of aluminum storm windows with more appropriate wooden ones has been completed. HFA made a financial contribution to this project. Additional white picket fencing will be installed along the perimeter to recreate the authentic historic appearance of the property. (See 1865 photo, the earliest ever taken there.)

Locust Lawn - 1865

Currently there are two events on the summer calendar:

Sunday June 28: Tour the historic Locust Lawn Farm with Executive Director Kenneth Snodgrass, followed by a wine and cheese reception on the porch. 3pm – 5pm, $25 per person, reservations required (845-454-4500).

Saturday & Sunday August 22 & 23: Ancients Alive at Locust Lawn -- living history demonstrations from all classes of Romans and Greeks with weaponry, cooking, and more. 11am – 4pm. $8 per person; kids under 4 are free.

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.

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 15 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 (as of September ’15) 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. The deadline for applications is August 31.

**OUR ELUSIVE EUROPEAN FAMILY ROOTS**

The most reliable account we have of our European roots is the frustratingly incomplete account given in the diary of Abraham’s grandson, (also) Abraham: “Abraham Hasbroucq, he was a native of France, of the Town of Calais, and finding the troubles and oppressions and persecutions coming on the Protestants in France (it being before the revocation of the Edict of Nantes) his father moved out of France with his two sons Jean and Abraham and a daughter into Germany in the Palatinate, and there the said Abraham Hasbroucq with his father, brother and sister lived several years.”

The town of Hazebrouck is not mentioned. It is not far from Calais (about 40 miles east), and it is logical to assume that we have some sort of family connection with the town, but there is no evidence of it. Hazebrouck was always Catholic. Plausibly, Abraham’s forebears could have lived there and left (or been expelled) when they adopted the Calvinist faith. There are Hasbrouck family lines (with various spellings) which can reliably trace their ancestry this way. They generally went north to join Protestant communities in the Netherlands and Germany. Some have the same family coat of arms formerly used by the town of Hazebrouck. But there is nothing to show how our own ancestors happened to be in Calais or where they came from. And they were probably not in Calais itself. Following the Edict of Nantes in 1598 (which protected Protestant rights), Protestant communities were established in the nearby villages of Mark and Guines. In 1635, at the start of the Thirty Years War, French Cardinal Richelieu encouraged bands of Catholics to persecute Protestants in violation of the Edict. The church at Mark was burned and its records destroyed. The area’s remaining Protestants congregated in Guines, and it was likely from there that our ancestors set forth for the Palatinate (Pfalz in German) in the 1650s, as the Catholic persecution mentioned in the diary became increasingly severe.

Their stay in the Palatinate provides enticing tidbits of family information, but much of it is questionable. The most intriguing document is the so-called “French letter” of December 3, 1676, sent to “My children” from an unidentified writer (bottom part of letter missing) referring to “your brother Andries and your sister Elisabette” and “the house of your mother, Esther.” The original of this letter was in possession of the
Hasbrouck family for generations, and it has been generally assumed that “my children” referred to the brothers Jean and Abraham. But, referring back to the diary quotation, there is no mention of another brother or their mother, and the father and sister are not named. Furthermore, the Bevier family claims that the letter was written to Beviers in America and refers to their family members. Thus, although surviving Mannheim church records specifically show the marriage of Jean Hasbrouck and Anna Deyo and refer also to a bachelor Abraham Hasbrouck as well as an elder Jean Hasbrouck (presumably their father), the European references in the beginning of our family genealogical records to Andries, Elizabette and Esther cannot be reliably verified. Also, the relationship between Jean/Abraham’s parents remains a mystery. By her omission from the diary entry, their mother apparently did not go to the Palatinate with them in the 1650s. And if she was in fact Esther, as named in the French letter, she was still living removed from the other named family members when the letter was written about twenty years later in 1676. (This is also evident from other facts given in the diary.)

Several family researchers have tried (mainly in the 1920s) to find more details about our European family line, but have produced nothing definitive other than the Mannheim church records. During the intervening centuries the succession of wars and political/religious upheavals has resulted in the loss of any documentation that might have provided verification. So we’ll have to make do with logical speculations based on what information we have while realizing that we must contend with an uncertain past as well as an uncertain future.

DOCTOR LAMAR HASBROUCK MOVES UP AGAIN

In previous newsletters we have introduced you to Dr. LaMar Hasbrouck, a California native, who came in 2009 from a position in charge of the U.S. Government’s Center for Disease Control in Guyana to become the Ulster County Director of Public Health. It was a surprising coincidence because at that time he had no previous knowledge of the linkage of the Hasbrouck name with Ulster County and the Huguenots. Unfortunately he was unable to discover the origin of the Hasbrouck name in his family line, but obviously it exists. He inherited a public health program in disarray from mismanagement and transformed it into a very effective one. This led to his appointment in 2012 as Director of Public Health for the State of Illinois. He was also successful in this position but lost it in the 2014 yearend change of the state’s political administration. In February of this year he became the Executive Director of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). In announcing the appointment, NACCHO President Georgia Heise said, “Dr. Hasbrouck’s experience working at all levels of governmental public health practice along with credentials in public health and medicine are especially appropriate at a time when the public health and healthcare sectors are transforming in response to
political, economic, and social pressures. NACCHO's continuing emphasis on assuring and representing local and foundational governmental public health capacity and services remains in good hands."

We congratulate Dr. Hasbrouck on his new position and feel sure he will continue to produce excellent results in any position he occupies.

**A PAIR OF HASBROUCK FORECASTERS – ACCURATE BUT NEVER RICH OR FAMOUS**

You might think that anyone who could accurately forecast future events and economic/financial trends would be even richer and more famous than Warren Buffett, the current idol of Wall Street. But, although the husband/wife team of Louis & Muriel Hasbrouck did just that, they never amassed riches and are now long forgotten. How could that happen? It’s an interesting story. In a nutshell, it is because their forecasting was quite unconventional.

Abraham Louis (the name he used) Hasbrouck (1890 – 1979) was an 8th generation descendant of Abraham and a younger brother of Joseph Jansen Hasbrouck, a mining engineer we wrote about (June ’13 newsletter), who had an important part in Hiram Brigham’s 1915 expedition to Machu Picchu and its surroundings. Louis graduated from Yale, served in both world wars and was a captain in the Army Air Force. Between the wars he worked on Wall Street and was there to see his own investments and those of his clients disintegrate during the Crash of 1929 and the subsequent Great Depression of the 1930s. But the era had a silver lining for Louis. He met Muriel Bruce (1890 – 1981), a Canadian, who was a music and English major in college, a classical pianist, and a reporter for a Toronto newspaper. They were married in 1931 when both were 41.

Much earlier Muriel had developed a keen interest in the combination of mysticism and science, resulting in cosmological theory. She worked as a ghost writer for Evangeline Adams, the famous astrologer for J.P. Morgan, who is rumored to have said, “Millionaires don’t use astrology, billionaires do.” She studied the Tarot as a universal system in which can be found coded secrets to universal knowledge. Muriel sought a way to integrate Tarot and astrology into a scientific methodology which would bring astrology to an equal footing with science. She purportedly cracked a veiled code which led to the discovery of what she called “space-time field forces,” the key missing element resulting in inconsistencies in most astrological research. The use of these forces, she said, leads to a system of celestial mechanics which is fully predictable and mechanical to such a degree that it takes calculations out of the esoteric realm of astrological interpretation into the scientific field of electromagnetic and solar force mechanics. From the time Muriel made this discovery, she rejected the term astrology and distanced herself from its traditional followers. To her, space-time field forces provided a clear demonstration of the dynamics of force interaction within the solar system and a scientifically verifiable process of the propagation of celestial influence through the medium of the sun. Her theory perfectly aligned with the newly accepted relativity physics of Albert Einstein, and she
felt her discovery would provide a valuable contribution to humanity.

The first application of her system was to the prediction of earthquakes, volcanic activity and space weather. Assisted by Louis, Muriel had, by the mid-1950's, developed and tested her system for many years with the result that she was able to forecast these phenomena with an approximate 90% accuracy rate. It was the forecasting of space weather that became the primary direction that they took to bring their theories to the modern world. Muriel had her theory evaluated and found accurate by a scientist at Bell Labs and monitored by H.T. Stetson of MIT, author of two books on sunspots. John Nelson at RCA had developed a similar theory of planetary radio disturbance, but their system was far more reaching and advanced than his.

Over a period of six years Muriel and Louis contacted various areas of the US Government, always receiving some initial interest, and the High Altitude Observatory closely evaluated their work for some time. But in the end the scientist and physicists just could not accept that there was a way, using just astronomical data, for some tabular calculation to predict space weather, even though they followed and confirmed the predictions themselves. Meanwhile, Louis with his investment background had realized that many of Muriel’s projections coincided with stock market moves. So, frustrated by their experience with the government, Muriel and Louis decided instead to adapt their space-time theories to use in forecasting economic trends, figuring that their accuracy would be of great interest in the practical world of Wall Street and the financial community.

In 1964 the pair (age 74 by then) officially introduced their new financial forecasting report, Space-Time Forecasting of Economic Trends. In 1957 they had published a 7-year forecast in the magazine American Mercury, which had been quite accurate, and as a result felt confident of continued success. They registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as economic trend forecasters. They charged $300/year for their service ($2,000 in today’s dollars) and did not advertise it. The couple was well off but not really rich and they sought neither fame nor fortune. What they really wanted was validation and acceptance of their theories by the scientific, economic and financial communities. They did achieve a small measure of success with these reports, which they wrote for the next 15 years, until they were too old to continue. Their primary clientele were Wall Street insiders, CEOs of other advisory letters and institutional investment managers. Of particular note among them were Edson Gould and Hamilton Bolton. Gould, a pre-eminent technical market analyst of the time, was a long-time associate of Muriel. He used the Hasbrouck forecasts in formulating his own and promoted their service to his colleagues and clients. Bolton was the founder of the Bank Credit Analyst, still a respected publication today. He also worked with Muriel in utilizing her theories for economic and financial forecasting – especially the presumption that solar activity has a predictable effect on all human behavior (including mass psychology) and that measurement of changes in the electronic-magnetic field of the solar system can therefore be used to forecast economic and financial trends.

All this is very unconventional indeed. But the results were good enough to keep the service going for many years. When Louis and Muriel grew too old (late 80s) to continue, they passed their work on to their long-time associate, Harriet Higginson, who continued to produce the reports for another 16 years until her death in 1996. At that time the massive archives (30,000 pages) of Louis and Muriel were stashed in an attic and forgotten.

But the story isn’t over yet! In 2006 the attic was apparently cleaned out, and the archives were offered for sale. After examining them and researching their history, William Stewart of the Sacred Science
Institute recognized their importance and purchased them. The Institute is now analyzing the contents and plans to publish the essential elements. It advertises that “the Hasbrouck archives present an entire education in market forecasting, celestial mechanics and field theory, and astronomical causation which goes well beyond all current theories of modern science, producing forecasting results that are, as yet, beyond scientific or economic understanding. We anticipate that the release of this treasure trove of wisdom will help to advance the field of financial forecasting and solar field causation in ways never before considered.” An introductory 3 volume, 1,400 page set is already available for purchase for $1,500 (see www.sacredscience.com/Hasbrouck). So Louis and Muriel have passed on, but their space-time forecasting theories have been resurrected and are still alive!

(Most of the information for this article was plagiarized – with permission – from an article about Louis and Muriel by Mr. Stewart on the website of the Sacred Science Institute.)

**ANOTHER COL. ALFRED HASBROUCK**

Our September 2011 newsletter featured an article about Colonel Alfred Hasbrouck (1858 – 1920), a West Point graduate with a distinguished military career.

More recently our only consistent news-feeder, Donna Hasbrouck, sent a photo and other information about “Colonel Alfred Hasbrouck”, and he certainly did not look like the one we knew. Some research turned up the fact that there was, indeed, another such person (we’ll call him Alfred #2), and Donna tracked down some details of his military career that we did not have in our records. The two Alfreds overlapped considerably in their periods of Army duty (1883 – 1919 for Alfred, 1898 – 1919 for Alfred #2) with Alfred’s being much longer and more varied.

Alfred #2 (1879 – 1948) was born in Poughkeepsie, NY, an 8th generation descendant of Abraham (Alfred was 7th). He went to Harvard and enlisted at age 18 as first sergeant of a Volunteer NY Infantry company in 1898, when the Spanish American War began. The photo shows him on Christmas of that year at Camp Wetherill, SC., by which time he was a second lieutenant. There is no information on whether he served outside the country during the war. In 1901 he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Regular Army. He served the rest of his career in the Coast Artillery Corps, entirely within the country, including Fort Monroe, VA, an important bastion in the defenses of Washington, DC. Although he did not see combat in World War I, he benefited from the acceleration of promotions growing out of the wartime expansion of the Army and replacement of officer casualties in the fighting. Still a 1st lieutenant when America entered the war in April 1917, he was a major by July, lieutenant colonel in February 1918 and colonel in August of that year. He retired with that rank in May 1919.
Neither Alfred ever married. Alfred died the year after his retirement, but Alfred #2 lived another 29 years and taught history at Lake Forest College in Illinois and at the University of Florida. Both Alfreds were buried with military honors, Alfred at West Point and Alfred #2 at Arlington National Cemetery.

**UPDATE ON THE DEMISE OF THE STEAMER JOHN L. HASBROUCK**

Our June ’09 newsletter featured an article about John L. Hasbrouck (including his Manhattan Island property) and the long-serving Hudson River steamship named for him. We reported a sad end for the ship in 1906 when thick ice pushed it onto a reef just 500 feet short of safety at the New Hamburgh dock, crushing its hull. The ship filled with water in twenty minutes and listed 45 degrees onto its starboard side (see photo). Over the next few days it was stripped by souvenir hunters and was seemingly doomed to be scrapped. But further research has revealed that this was not the case.

Despite the severe damage, the ship’s owner (The Poughkeepsie Transportation Company) raised it, repaired it and put it back in service, carrying passengers and cargo between Poughkeepsie and New York. Later she was sold to The Central Hudson Steamship Company and renamed Marlborough. She continued in service until being scrapped in 1918, twelve years after her “initial” death and 54 years after beginning service on the Hudson River. Few ships have had such a record of longevity.

**HASBROUCK CAMP AT RAQUETTE LAKE**

Our Sept. ’08 and Feb. ’09 newsletters featured an article about the Hasbrouck Camp at Raquette Lake in the Adirondack Mountains of New York. One of several “camps” built in the area by the wealthy elite as havens from the summer heat, it was owned by New York City businessman Frederick Hasbrouck from around 1884 until his death in 1906 and remained under family ownership until 1953. Donna Hasbrouck found an excellent postcard view of it from the lake on the internet, and we’ve displayed it here. The Vanderbilt compound, Great Camp Sagamore, has been restored and is open to visitors as an example of the genre.

**Raquette Lake –1911**

We welcome our new member:
Christine Elvin, West Caldwell, NJ