

Hasbrouck Family Association

JOURNAL

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President's Report – T. C. Hasbrouck

In the March 2020 edition of the *HFA Journal*, it was reported that a number of restoration activities at both the Jean and Abe Houses would be coming to completion this spring. At the Jean House, the new roof shingles were to be installed in time for the opening of the 2020 touring season. The west wall of the Abe House would have reproductions of the original windows and doors installed. With the COVID-19 pandemic, as happened in many locations, all activities on Huguenot Street came to a halt with stay at home orders being issued by New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo.



This new virus, with no natural immunities and no medical antidote, proved to be serious, with thousands dying and many more being seriously ill. Given the gravity of the virus, safety was paramount. On Huguenot Street, staff was sent home, plans for the touring season put on hold, and a number of

outstanding programs cancelled or postponed. The Gathering, (a day-long series events for descendants of the twelve patentees of New Paltz), scheduled for early August, was postponed until next year. Programs on Women's History, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, were cancelled. The opening of the houses for the season has been put on hold.

Additionally, all work on the houses has been suspended until it is safe to return to work. So, the Jean House awaits its new roof. The Abe House facade will be completed later than planned. Be assured that Historic Huguenot Street (HHS) staff has been checking on the houses to ensure that they are safe and secure. Similarly, Locust Lawn, the Josiah Hasbrouck House in nearby Plattekill, is closed during the pandemic, with a number of great program plans suspended.

Hopefully, soon we will be able to see the street reopened, tourists enjoying the unique historical perspective that Huguenot Street offers, and the house projects come to completion.

HFA has been most fortunate to have Neil Larson working with us for twenty years, sharing his expertise in architectural history and overseeing many of the projects at the Abe House. From cellar beam replacement and roof structure repairs, to both exterior and interior restorations of the house to represent the 1760 time period, Neil has been front and center in planning, developing requests for proposals, and oversight of each project. His expertise and efforts have been extraordinary and invaluable. At the end of June 2020, Neil and his wife, Jill Larson, will be relocating to Duluth, Minnesota, her hometown. HFA will greatly miss Neil's day-to-day work with us. In spite of the distance, we hope that we can tap Neil's knowledge for future projects. We wish Neil and Jill well in their endeavors in Minnesota. Thank you, Neil!



Plan Ahead – The 2020 HFA Annual Reunion

The 2020 HFA Annual Reunion is to be held on Saturday, October 10 on Huguenot Street in New Paltz, New York. Plans are already underway for this year's activities. It is a wonderful opportunity to connect with family cousins, to see the houses of our ancestral roots, and enjoy the beautiful foliage of an autumn day in mid-state New York.

Lodging in New Paltz can fill quickly with the autumn 'tree peeping' touring, as well as college activities at SUNY New Platz. Recommended is that you make lodging reservations early. There are several options: Motels - America's Best Value Lodging, Hampton Inn, Rodeway Inn, and Econo Lodge. As well, there are numerous Bed & Breakfasts in the region, including The Hasbrouck House in nearby Stone Ridge. In all cases, detailed information and reservations can be found on their websites. Don't delay!

Looking forward to seeing you on Huguenot Street on October 10th.



Calling for Family History Stories!

Each edition of the HFA *Journal* contains stories of historical interest. Do *you* have Hasbrouck Family stories of interest that you might share in the *HFA Journal*? Please send a summary to the email (or mail address) in the masthead above. Be sure to include your contact information as well as some explanation of the sources of the story; someone may contact you for more info about the story. Yours might be selected!



Huguenot Street Happenings – Liselle LaFrance

What a difference a few weeks can make....in the last Hasbrouck Family Association newsletter, I reported on an exciting slate of programming and that plans were underway for the next Gathering of family associations. Things changed dramatically in the third week of March, when Governor Andrew Cuomo issued a series of Executive Orders closing down "non-essential" businesses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has hit New York State particularly hard.



Our immediate response was to sort out and provide what was needed for staff to work effectively from home and to put into place protocols to ensure that security, preservation and administrative functions could occur on site in a safe manner. We also revisited the annual budget, implementing significant cost saving measures, including reduced staff time, in response to the anticipated drop in revenues from on-site tours, programs and shop sales. We submitted three successful loan applications, a good portion of which will be forgiven, to the Small Business Administration (SBA), which was critical to stabilizing operations during this uncertain time.

We then turned our attention to engaging audiences virtually. I hope you've accessed and enjoyed the array of readings, demonstrations, collections highlights, videos and shop promotions that we've been offering—please make sure to visit <https://historic-huguenot-street-museum-shop.myshopify.com/collections/huguenot-descendants> for shop offerings of special interest to Huguenot descendants.

Most recently, we reconvened our strategic planning committee to develop financial and programming strategies under "the new normal". While it won't be in the same numbers, we look forward to welcoming visitors back to the site soon. We appreciate the continued support of HFA members during this unprecedented time.



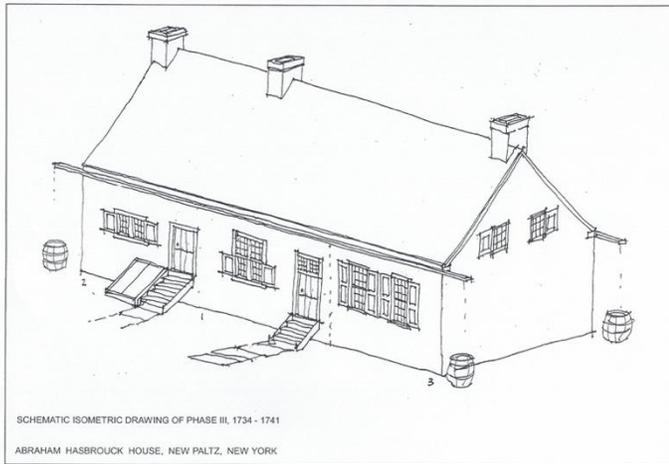
Abraham Hasbrouck House

In the previous edition of the HFA *Journal*, descriptions of the west facade window and door restoration detailed the installation of both Bolkozijn and Kruiskozijn windows, and period-accurate doors in the opkamer and middle sections of the house. While the street has been closed due to the



pandemic, at Jim Decker's workshop in Hurley, work on the windows and doors is being done in a safe environment. The windows and door fabrications will

be done in time for installation of the Abe House in June (hopefully when the street will be open again).



Abe House drawing – front facade original appearance

The craftsmanship and attention to detail is to be admired. Included here are some workshop photos provided by Jim Decker.



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Jean Hasbrouck House



Shingles stacked and awaiting installation on 'Jean'.
(Photo courtesy of HHS)

With the COVID-19 closure of all non-essential businesses in March 2020, Historic Huguenot Street being closed has put a halt on the installation of the new roof shingles on the Jean House. The Alaskan yellow cedar shingles, treated with fire retardant in Canada, have been delivered to the house, awaiting installation. When the Street can reopen, the contractor can get to work removing the old shingles and applying the new ones. When the work is completed, the house will look terrific!

Locust Lawn

Col. Josiah Hasbrouck, who lived in the inherited Jean House on Huguenot Street, moved to a large tract of land in Gardiner, immediately south of New Paltz, in 1806. There he built Locust Lawn in 1814. Based on an Asher



Benjamin design, the house reflected Josiah's wealth and prestige. Kept in the family for a number of generations, the house contains many original paintings, furnishings and décor. Since 2010, the house has been owned by Locust Grove, another Hasbrouck House in Poughkeepsie. (Photo by Locust Grove)

As with Huguenot Street, Locust Lawn has been closed during the COVID-19 pandemic, with all activities cancelled or postponed. Once Locust Lawn reopens, the most up-to-date information about our upcoming programs can be found on our Facebook

page (Facebook.com/LocustLawn), or our Instagram @locustlawnmuseum.



**To the Class of 2020
Congratulations from All of Us**



A very big Congratulations to **Alexander Bondulich**, a 12th generation Jean descendant, who has overcome many emotional and physical obstacles: dysgraphic / dyslexic and ocular/acuity disorder to

graduate from County Prep High School, Jersey City, NJ with Concentrations in Creative Writing and Film and a Certificate of Graduation in Culinary Arts.

Robert J. Brandell, past Hasbrouck Scholarship recipient, received a Masters, from Miseracordia Univ., Dallas, PA

Julia Rumsey received Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Art in History with Minors in Jewish Studies and Psychology from SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz, NY and is a member of the honor society Phi Alpha Theta. She is continuing her college career at SUNY Binghamton in a dual masters degree program: Master of Public Admin. and Master of Student Affairs Admin.

Jason R. Xenakis, degrees achieved -- Dr. of Medicine, Master of Public Health and Doctor of Public Health, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY – Starting his residency at St. Vincent’s Hospital, Bridgeport, CT



Scholarships

Annually, the Hasbrouck Family Association and Historic Huguenot Street award scholarships to deserving Huguenot descendants. In 2019, HHS was able to offer several scholarships, along with HFA awarding four \$2,000 Gertrude Hasbrouck Scholarships to the four top-ranked applicants. New this year – in addition to the scholarship, the four scholars received a one-year membership in HFA. These impressive young women and men embody academic excellence.

Ian Cox is an Abraham Hasbrouck descendant who lives in Manassas, Virginia and is a student at James Madison University, completing his Sophomore year. A performance music major, Ian is a talented saxophone player. Experiences include concert, ensemble, and solo performances. Upon



completion of his undergraduate work, Ian plans to pursue a graduate school degree. Playing professionally as a musician, Ian is considering performing in a military band, with other options being recording movie music with Disney or work in musical show performance orchestras.

Samuel Dopp of Allentown, Pennsylvania, is completing his senior year at Penn State University, majoring in Mechanical Engineering. This Freer descendant, in addition to some impressive academic credentials, has had several notable internships, including the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation bridge design



team. Having worked on several in-country mission trips, Sam has seen the impact of poverty on peoples’ lives. Additionally, Sam is an EMT, working at both his hometown and college emergency services. After graduation, Sam plans to work as a hospital emergency room technician then pursue medical school. Sam has been awarded the Gertrude Hasbrouck Scholarship two years in a row.

Andrew Freer of Alexandria, Indiana, is another descendant of patentee Hugo Freer and repeat



awardee of the Gertrude Hasbrouck Scholarship. An accounting major at Taylor University, Andrew is completing his undergraduate studies in three years! His religious faith is a core part of who he is, relying on it to help overcome some significant life experiences. While in college, Andrew has volunteered as a church youth group leader, and served as a Resident Assistant on campus. Last summer, Andrew worked in an auditing internship at the Department of Defense Office of Inspector General. His work was so impressive that he was offered a permanent position after graduation!

Zoe HasBrouck attends Brown University, completing her Sophomore year as an Economics major. Home is Saratoga Springs, New York. In academics and on the Brown University's rowing team (placing eighth in national competition), Zoe's drive for excellence is exhibited. Pursuing a rigorous academic program, Zoe's post-college goals are still in formation. Zoe sets high standards and goals for herself. Her Huguenot lineage can be traced through both the Abraham and Jean Hasbrouck lines.



Congratulations to each of the recipients. Your Huguenot ancestors would be as proud of you as are we. Best wishes for continued success in all your pursuits!



New Members

- Amy Amin, Northville, MI
- Charles (Nick) Colvin, Irmo, SC
- Stephanie Hatfield, Phoenix, AZ
- Laura Lentz, Kernersville, NC
- Barbara Schwartz, Thousands Oaks, CA



Members Who Have Left Us

- Roger Graham
- Erik Hasbrouck
- Mildred Watson



Dr. Lydia Sayer Hasbrouck – Earnest Advocate of Woman's Suffrage

Lydia Sayer Hasbrouck was the fifth of eight children born to Benjamin and Rebecca (Forshee) Sayer on December 20, 1827 in Warwick, New York. From early childhood she displayed a fierce independence that would characterize the remainder of her life. She became a reformer, a physician, an editor - and the first American woman to hold elected office!

Lydia adopted the radical form of dress known as the bloomer or reform dress - an adaptation of Turkish pantaloons with shortened skirt. She was devastated when as a young woman she was refused admittance to nearby S. S. Seward Institute for her mode of dress. In her own words, "As I left...I fairly bathed my soul in an agony of tears and silent prayers. ... I

registered a vow that I would stand or fall in the battle for women's physical, political and educational freedom and equality." It was her view that women could not hope for equality or compete in a man's world while encumbered by the heavy, impractical, restrictive Victorian dress of the day.



She continued her education at Elmira Academy and around 1853 studied hydropathy, also known as water cure, at the Hygeia-Therapeutic College in New York City. Hydropathy practitioners were more than doctors - they were activists on behalf of a world view in which physical and mental health derived from living in accordance with the "laws of nature."

She relocated to Washington, D.C. where she practiced hydropathy medicine and became a correspondent for the *Washington Star* newspaper and other periodicals. In 1856, the editor and publisher of the *Middletown Whig Press*, John Whitbeck Hasbrouck*, invited her to participate in a lecture tour about dress reform. After the reform tour, John offered to help Lydia establish her own newspaper in Middletown, Orange County, NY. Lydia accepted and moved to Middletown where the feminist periodical, *The Sibyl: A Review of the Tastes, Errors and Fashions of Society* was founded, and she became its editor. The first edition of the *Sibyl* appeared on July 1, 1856. A few weeks later, on July 27th, Lydia and John were married at the home of her parents. The couple performed the wedding ceremony themselves without the assistance of a minister. Her only concession to traditional bridal attire was her bloomer outfit was white.

In addition to dress reform, *The Sybil* advocated more generally for women's rights, universal suffrage, and

the immediate abolition of slavery. She argued in *Sibyl* that women should not pay taxes so long as they were treated as inferior citizens. In 1859, when she refused to pay taxes to the town of Wallkill on the grounds that she was not allowed to vote, Lydia found herself in the midst of a tax struggle. The tax collector managed to steal the trousers of her reform dress from her home and advertised them for sale to cover the taxes. When an editorial appeared in *The Sybil* denouncing him as a "vulgar sneak," he was apparently shamed into dropping the issue.

Lydia continued to crusade against unfair taxation. By 1863, she had not paid her taxes for two years. When she refused to pay highway taxes, she was ordered by the Highway Commissioner to appear with her "best" shovel in hand, to work out her highway tax - her tax was for ten and a half days. On September 9th of that year she arrived at the designated spot on the road with her shovel - a fire shovel, designed for the removal of fireplace ashes. The road overseer replaced it with a standard shovel and instructed her to begin filling a wagon with debris. She did not comply. Instead she stood, leaning on her shovel, talking, and "calling the attention of other workmen from work." At one point she sat on the ground and began tossing pebbles into the wagon. Finally, she occupied herself by reading a newspaper. After the fifth day she did not return to work, which resulted in her arrest upon the complaint of the overseer. This incident appeared in newspapers across the country, but these articles don't reveal how long Lydia was imprisoned or if her punishment included a fine.

Through her refusal to pay taxes and the subsequent articles published in *The Sibyl*, Lydia showed readers that one did not have to be part of an organized movement to fight for suffrage. Ordinary women could take action in their everyday lives.

In 1880, New York granted school suffrage to women. Having the new law in mind, Lydia invited a group of ladies to her Middletown home where they nominated a woman's ticket, Lydia and four other women, to run for the Board of Education against the all-male Republican ticket - which by a curious combination of circumstances, in the end, proved successful - all the women handily defeated their opponents.

Dr. Lydia Sayer Hasbrouck died 24 Aug 1910 in Middletown, NY after a lifetime devoted to equality for women - ten years before women's right to vote was realized by the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

*John Whitbeck Hasbrouck was the son of Richard Montgomery Hasbrouck and Mary Johnson, grandson of Capt. Elias Hasbrouck and Elizabeth Slecht.

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A Recipe from *As Our Ancestors Cooked*

Doing historical research is an effort to better understand how people lived in the day-to-day life in prior time periods. Thanks to the efforts of Alice Hasbrouck, a wonderful collection of old recipes of Ulster County are published in a cookbook, *As Our Ancestors Cooked*. Copyrighted in 1976 by Huguenot Historical Society, the book was republished with special permission by HFA in 1999. (The book can be purchased from HFA through its website, or from the HHS Museum Shop, also online or at the shop.)

One of the challenges of recipes from long ago is the understanding the different terms used for ingredients and measurements. In times when gender roles were rather sharply defined, recipe directions were sparse, as it was assumed that every woman had learned to cook and bake. In the absence of grocery stores as we have today, most items were made at home using ingredients grown in family gardens. Alice collected recipes for food, beverage, dyes, soaps, and medications for both humans and livestock.

As we head into the summer months, a beer recipe (one of many in the cookbook) is presented (as written originally):

"To make beer

One tablespoonfull cream tartar, one of ginger, one of allspice (allspice), one quart molasses, ½ pint emptings [emptins*] to six quarts of water. To be mixed cold. One mans hand full of hops boiled in one pint water and added while hot. Let it stand 24 hours then strain and bottle it."

*Emptins is a homemade liquid yeast, leaven or sourdough.

There are beer makers among us in the Association - if you make this recipe, give us your feedback on the beer's taste.



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