



HASBROUCK FAMILY
ASSOCIATION

JOURNAL

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

FEBRUARY 2004

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There are major developments with respect to our two Huguenot Street houses, and it's a good news/bad news report. The good news concerns the "Jean House." HHS has received a \$250,000 grant for the wall restoration project from Save America's Treasures, a prestigious U.S. Government fund administered by the National Park Service and supported by Laura Bush, who is its honorary chairperson. Competition for these awards is intense; there were almost 500 applications, and only 63 grants were made. This was by far our biggest grant opportunity, and the award brings both excitement and relief that close to half the project cost has been met through this one major effort. Our local congressman, Rep. Hinchey, was active on our behalf and was undoubtedly helpful in achieving the successful result. As gratifying as this news is, it doesn't allow room for complacency. With a total project cost of \$570,000 there's still a large amount to be raised. HHS is applying for grants from other sources and hoping this high-profile award will convince other potential donors of the high merit and importance of this project. But no other grant is likely to be in the same ballpark as this one, so we still need your contributions as much as ever.

The bad news in this report concerns the "Abe" House, where cracked rafters were discovered in late October. The damage was so serious that the roof was in danger of collapse. A temporary support structure was designed by a structural engineering firm and installed by the HHS restoration crew. They rushed to finish the job amid the first snowflakes of a significant winter

storm which might otherwise have brought disaster.

The damage was discovered during inspections by experts initiated by HFA to assess long-standing problems with groundwater and dampness at the house and recommend corrective action. Structural integrity, which can be affected by these problems, was studied as well. The experts made a number of recommendations, and HHS will work with one of the firms involved to start implementing these recommendations this year. (See next article for details.)

In the September newsletter we mentioned movement toward a different type of interpretation for the Abraham House after completion of the restoration project. In an October 10 meeting with HHS officers the HFA directors gave "approval in concept" to the HHS proposal for an interpretation based on showing how the house developed. It would feature architectural, archeological, historical and functional aspects and would culminate in a fully restored and accurately furnished north room, the *Opkammer*. We agreed to hire a professional exhibit designer to help us in translating this concept into a specific, detailed plan.

Unfortunately the critical need to address the structural and water problems at the house will postpone our final restoration and interpretation project for at least a year. It doesn't make sense to proceed with actions that might prove incompatible with the ultimate solutions to these problems and/or be disrupted by the corrective work. On the other hand, all parties are determined to have the Abraham House open for

the coming tour season. We will have to employ a temporary display again, but it will be quite different from last year's. It's just in the concept stage at this point, but the idea is to show how trends in interpretation have changed over the last decade or so. It would start with a traditionally furnished south room, indicate the problems identified in this type of presentation, and then show different formats in the other rooms. More details should be available in the next newsletter.

With so much attention required by the "Abe" House problems, we're not making any progress toward editing and publishing our computerized genealogy. However, we can handle your research requests and are eager to make updates and corrections. So send us any new information, ask us for printouts of your family tree, and let us know if any changes/additions are needed.

Thanks to those of you who sent us contributions last year (see list on back page). They are much appreciated and badly needed (see Finances on page 7). Besides our normal expenses, we want to help HHS with the maintenance and restoration of the Jean House; the needs there with the dangerous north wall are still huge. Your tax-deductible contributions are most welcome at any time; we need your support!

Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr.



PLANNED ACTIVITY AT OUR HOUSES

Abraham Hasbrouck House

The President's Message describes structural and water-related problems identified at the house. The newly installed rafter support structure is "temporary" in the sense that it is easily removable, but it is strong enough to last for years, and no further action there is contemplated for the near future. HHS will soon begin to

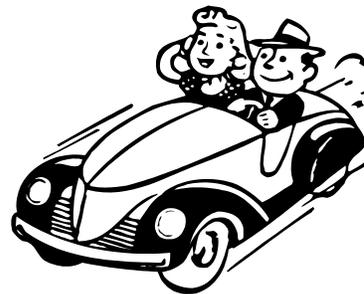
implement the recommendations on the other problems in cooperation with the firm that made them, Landmark Facilities Group of Norwalk, CT. The first phase calls for using extensive instrumentation to measure dampness and structural stress at various points in the building in developing data on existing conditions and how they vary with the changing weather environment during the year. Also planned are (1) removal of the maple tree close to the east wall and (2) creation of swales on the north and east sides of the house to direct groundwater flows away from it. These activities should not prevent having the house open for tours.

Jean Hasbrouck House

HHS will initiate the restoration project, drawing up specifications, seeking bids, and complying with the numerous requirements attendant with all government grants. Odds are that the actual work will not begin until the spring of 2005. Meanwhile, the house will be open for tours, and work continues on the furnishings plan.

Josiah Hasbrouck House (Locust Lawn)

Restoration of the chimneys has been completed. The work plan for this year calls for replacing the two lower roofs. HHS plans to have the house open for regular tours in 2-3 years. (Presently it is open only for the Colonial Street Festival and by special appointment. If you're visiting in the area and want to see it, contact us or HHS ahead of time.)



ANNUAL REUNION

In welcome contrast to our wet '02 experience, we enjoyed pleasant weather for our October 11 reunion.

We started the day with a coffee and fellowship hour at Deyo Hall followed by a briefing on current developments at HHS from Executive Director Jack Braunlein and our traditional memorial service at the French Church. Then we stopped in front of the Jean Hasbrouck House to inspect the buttressed north wall while Braunlein briefed

us on the situation there (see Planned Activities at Our Houses). Continuing down Huguenot Street through the temptations of the Dutch Reformed Church's annual Apple Festival, we gathered at the Abraham Hasbrouck House where Neil Larson (our historic research consultant) led us through the temporary exhibit he created at the house for the '03 tour season. Then it was back to Deyo Hall for a group photo (see it on our website as well as the minutes of our business meeting) and buffet lunch. Next we heard from our guest, Robert Brennan, who told us about some of the research he has done on slaves and their descendants in this area, especially in neighboring Orange County. In particular, he covered the highlights of three black Hasbrouck families in their development from the mid-19th century to the present. (See related article in this issue.) Our final activity for the day was the business meeting at which the HFA directors were reelected for the coming year. (See list of officers and financial summary in this issue.)

Our reunion this year will, as usual, be on the Saturday of Columbus Day weekend, October 9. Mark it on your calendars and plan to come and enjoy a visit with your extended family.

HFA OFFICERS

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
 Eleanor C. Sears, Vice President
 William G. Hasbrouck, Treasurer

Appointed by the President

Eleanor C. Sears, Secretary
 Robert H. Freehill, Scholarship Committee Representative and Family Liaison Committee Representative
 Thad M. Hasbrouck, Assistant Treasurer
 John C. Thorn, Webmaster

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).



SCHOLARSHIPS

HFA participates in the HHS College scholarship program. The 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. This past fall two Gertrude Hasbrouck scholarships were awarded. One went to Christa Robin Atkins, a Hasbrouck descendant, who is a junior at Susquehanna University. With a double major in Global Management and French she had a virtually perfect academic record during her sophomore year while still finding time to help with fundraising and meal preparation for the local Ronald McDonald House. She was selected for a program in France this semester providing for an internship with a French corporation while studying at a business school in Dijon. She is there now, utilizing her language skills in the land of her ancestors. Christa won an HHS scholarship in 2002, and her continuing outstanding performance earned her one of the top two awards for 2003. The other went to Mary Bonaparte-Krogh, who can show ancestral links to the Hasbroucks, DuBoises and Beviers. She is now a junior at Rochester Institute of Technology after earning an Associate degree with highest honors from Tompkins Cortland Community College while financing her education through part-time work. She's now planning a bachelor's degree in Graphic Arts with the aid of our HFA scholarship.

Two Hasbrouck family members earned HHS scholarships. Eric Lieberman, a junior majoring in Computer Sciences at MIT, repeated his 2002 award. Nicole Hasbrouck is a sophomore at Queens College of Charlotte (NC). She's majoring in Business Administration while interning with a local law firm and plans to attend law school after graduation.

Our congratulations to all these fine scholars!

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 still occupies it today. 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; and for 2003 it went to Marion Zimmer, whose library service started in 1995. She developed programs and facilities for teens became program coordinator for adult and children's programs, developed and operates the Library's website, served for three years as chairperson of the Friends of the Library, filled in as Interim Director of the Library, and is now the Library manager. With this impressive list of accomplishments she has certainly earned the award, which was presented to her on behalf of

HFA by Richard Relyea Hasbrouck at a dinner ceremony on December 2.



Marion Zimmer (left) receives the '03 Judge G. D. B. Hasbrouck Award from HFA's Richard and Vivian Hasbrouck

SLAVERY ON HUGUENOT STREET -- PART 2

Part 1 in the last newsletter covered the general background of slavery in the North and a summary of the practice in New Paltz in the 18th and early 19th centuries. Part 2 presents some additional aspects of the situation, most of them applicable far beyond the New Paltz area.

Slaves seemed to be considered more as items of property than fellow human beings in that era. They were valued mainly for the work they could perform, and they were counted as assets along with farm animals and household items in tax assessments of their owners' wealth. There was a slave assessment rate based on age and sex (males higher). Slaves were bought/sold and passed on by will just like other items of property, usually with little or no regard for the concept (common in the South) of allowing families to stay together. A prominent example of this in our own family is found in the will of patentee Jean Hasbrouck, who bequeathed to his daughter Elizabeth "my negro woman named Molly on

condition that when (she) bears children, Jacob (Elizabeth's brother) shall have the first daughter but must leave her with the mother until she is one year old." Similar examples are found in the wills of numerous other Huguenot families. There are no existing New Paltz area records of slaves being transferred as a family unit. There was no prohibition against freeing slaves, but in light of their economic value, it rarely happened, even at the death of an owner.

The mind-set of whites toward blacks in that era seems shocking by today's standards of human decency. How could our Huguenot ancestors, who fled religious and political persecution in Europe, force other human beings to labor for them in slavery under conditions no less oppressive than they themselves suffered under the Catholics? The answer would seem to be that they considered themselves, due to their advanced culture, education and economic sophistication, to be a superior race to the black "savages" who only recently emerged from the jungle and were undeserving of an equal level of human respect. In this attitude they were hardly alone. Our founding fathers certainly did not intend the Declaration of Independence to apply to blacks. They were slave-owners themselves and could even find biblical support for the practice. (The New Testament seems to regard it without specific criticism as an accepted institution, and in Ephesians 6:5 Paul exhorts slaves to obey their masters.) As we all know, the progression toward racial equality and harmony has been glacially slow and still has far to go.

Unlike the sudden end of slavery in the South after the Civil War, its abolition in New York State – though earlier – was also glacially slow. The Manumission Act of 1799 had complicated terms which, to cite an extreme situation, required some children born as late as 1820 to be slaves until 1848! And freedom was no panacea for the slaves when they received it. They still had to try to support themselves in a generally hostile environment with little or no outside assistance. Many continued to work for their former owners on a subsistence basis. Many migrated to cities, where labor prospects were better and they could band together to establish their own neighborhoods. The most unlucky in the New

Paltz area wound up in the town's poorhouse under conditions even worse than slavery – housed with the insane with minimal provisions and harsh supervision.

A few freed slaves did manage a degree of success. One for whom records exist was John Hasbrouck, a former slave of Josiah Hasbrouck at Locust Lawn. (Slaves frequently took the family names of their owners.) He had the rare advantage of being literate and used his intelligence and education to develop sophisticated recordkeeping skills valuable to the local white farmers. He was able to buy land and qualify to vote. However, he and his family were ill equipped to cope with a period of land devaluation and economic instability. By 1884, five years after John's death, local records show that his family had lost ownership of their farm. Prosperity for blacks in "the land of the free" was – and still is – an elusive goal for most blacks.

The New Paltz area had a surprising connection with the aftermath of slavery in America. Two of the country's most famous black activists had roots there. Sojourner Truth, the charismatic female abolitionist, had been a slave of the Hardenberghs in nearby Marbletown and the DuMonts in West Park. And W.E.B. DuBois, a founder of the NAACP, was a descendant of a relationship between a fifth-generation DuBois and one of his slaves.

Our own family's connection with slavery survives today with a surprising number of black Hasbroucks still in the area. The HFA office has a file of names and newspaper clippings accumulated over the years by Kenneth Hasbrouck in his work of compiling family history. Just recently Robert Brennan, who spoke at our annual meeting in October, published a genealogical history of blacks in neighboring Orange County which included 33 pages of black Hasbroucks. So in this respect we have to qualify it when we say that all the American Hasbroucks are Huguenot descendants!

(Most of the information in this article is based on research by HHS archivist/librarian Eric Roth and contained in his paper, The Society of Negroes Unsettled: A History of Slavery in New Paltz, NY, which can be viewed at the HHS website: www.hhs-newpaltz.org.)

HASBROUCK GENEALOGY BOOKS AVAILABLE

We are updating and repeating our offer from the last newsletter for the benefit of any members interested in these books.



Kenneth Hasbrouck's The Hasbrouck Family in America consists of six volumes published between 1952 and 1990 and

represents the results of Kenneth's extensive genealogical research supplemented with a number of articles about family history. In recent years we have computerized and updated this genealogy and rewritten some aspects of the family history. However it will probably be several years still before we are able to publish our updated version of Kenneth's massive work. In the meanwhile these volumes comprise the only Hasbrouck genealogy in print and are still a valuable reference source for anyone seeking genealogical or historic information about our family. HHS has turned over its inventory of these books to HFA, and we are offering them to our members in return for a minimum contribution just slightly above our own cost for shipping and handling (postage alone for a full set is about \$12). We will send you the full six-volume set for a contribution of at least \$30 and any lesser order for a contribution of at least \$20.

For members not familiar with the volumes some further description is in order. Volumes 1 and 2 are bound together in a hard cover; this is the third edition, published in 1986. This combined work has 854 pages and contains the basic genealogy and family history. The subsequent volumes are thin books (hardcover except Vol. 6) containing additions to the genealogy and a smattering of historical items: Vol. 3 (1974) is 174 pages; Vol. 4 (1984), 75 pages; Vol. 5 (1987), 62 pages; and Vol. 6 (1990), 38 pages.

For long-time members who just bought the initial volumes, here is the opportunity to complete your set. For other members it is a great opportunity to acquire the initial volumes or the whole set. There is ample inventory of Volumes 1&2, 5 and 6 but only a small supply of Volumes 3 and 4; so if you want those volumes, don't delay.

All orders should be accompanied by contribution checks (see terms underlined above) and sent to our office (P.O. Box 176, New Paltz, NY 12561-0176).

MEMBERSHIP

Many members still have not paid their \$15 dues for the membership year starting October 1, 2003. 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!

We welcome our new members:

Marisa Bevilacqua, Las Vegas, NV
John C. Carhart, Latham, NY
Kathleen L. Carhart, Latham, NY
Susan Hasbrouck Depriest, Woodstock, VA
Irene Hasbrouck Ball, Ilion, NY
Richard Wayne Hasbrouck, Ellensburg, WA
Margaret Maisner Parker, Marshall, MI
Debbie Moore, Tacoma, WA
Dorcas Hasbrouck Schwartz, Fairfax, VA
Gina M. Valio, Schaumburg, IL

We have received notice of the following member deaths:

Rachel Bushong, Marshall, MI
Mildred Dempsey, Bolivar, NY
Philip B. Hasbrouck, Amherst, MA
Dr. Miriam Lenz Holmes, Webster, NY

EVENTS CALENDAR (Your attendance is invited)

May 1	Huguenot Street opens for tours
June 5	HHS Annual Meeting in New Paltz
August 7	Colonial Street Festival on Huguenot Street (Volunteers needed at Hasbrouck houses)
October 9	HFA Annual Reunion in New Paltz

FINANCES (in \$ thousands)

2003 Yearend Assets

HFA Endowment Fund	446	
HFA General Fund (unrestricted)	<u>106</u>	
Subtotal	552	
Helene Hasbrouck Anderson Fund	1,455	
TOTAL ASSETS		2,007

HFA ex-Helene Hasbrouck Anderson Fund

2003 Income

Investment Income	34	
Dues and Donations (unrestricted)	9	
Life Dues and Donations (endowment)	3	
Other Income	<u>2</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		48

2003 Expenses

Jean Hasbrouck House HSR	20	
Jean Hasbrouck House maintenance	8	
Scholarships	4	
Other programs	9	
Accounting fees	1	
Occupancy and Administration	7	
Excise taxes	1	
TOTAL EXPENSES		50

NET INCOME (LOSS) (2)

Helene Hasbrouck Anderson Fund

2003 Income

Investment Income	62	
TOTAL INCOME		62

2003 Expenses

Abraham Hasbrouck House	62	
Accounting fees	2	
Excise taxes	<u>2</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSES		66

NET INCOME (LOSS) (4)

With the bond market remaining strong and the stock market recovering after a 3-year decline, our financial position improved in 2003. Anderson Fund assets (mostly in stocks) increased by 12% while the HFA Endowment Fund (mostly fixed income) gained 4%.

Although Anderson Fund expenses slightly exceeded income and significant expenses are in prospect for work on the "Abe" House, the Fund has an accumulated income reserve of about \$100,000, which is available to supplement current income and should be sufficient for our needs. (The principal of the Fund cannot be spent – only the income.)

The HFA General Fund covers all our expenses except those related to the "Abe" House, which are paid by the Anderson Fund. Last year its unrestricted income was \$5,000 short of expenses, but these included a special \$20,000 contribution to the Historic Structure Report for the Jean Hasbrouck House. With most of our efforts last year focused on the complications at the "Abe" House, spending for other activities was below normal levels. About 90% of the annual income of the General Fund comes from the investment income of the Endowment Fund. With interest rates still at record lows this income is declining, so your contributions provide an important supplement to allow us to maintain our level of activity. Thanks for your help!

Hasbrouck Family Association, Inc.
2003 Contributors

Endowment Fund

Atkins, Ronald R.
Colton, John P.
Dana, Arnold G.
Duke, H. Benjamin, III
Esserman, Edward
Fleckenstein, Edward A.
Hasbrouck, Charles B., Jr.
Ryder, Frances B.
Smith, Caroline V.

General Fund

Baldwin, Rosemary V.
Bill, Lester H.
Carhart, David & Lynne
Colton, John P.
Dalrymple, Cornelia
Dana, Arnold G.
Duke, H. Benjamin, III
Ecker, Barbara J.
Fleckenstein, Edward A.
Hasbrouck, Donald H.
Hasbrouck, John J.
Hasbrouck, Joseph A.
Hasbrouck, Robert, W., Jr
Hasbrouck, Louise J.
Hasbrouck, Phyllis R.
Hasbrouck, William A.
Hauser, Marilyn P.
Kleinknecht, Dorothy
MacDowell, Francis M.
Monsees, Ralph H.
Ryan, Elaine B.
Smith, Caroline V.
Van Wagner, Roy
Waide, Margaret

Jean Hasbrouck House

Alliger, David H.
Atkins, Ronald R.
Baldwin, Rosemary V.
Carey, John H.
Cheffy, Frederick G.
Christensen, Susan
Clancy, Jean T.
Clark, Betty D.
Colton, John P.
Delamater, John O.
DeNaples, Mary H.
Dixon, Jane M.
Eckert, Barbara J.
Fleckenstein, Edward A.
Hasbrouck, Douglas J.
Hasbrouck, Joseph F.
Hasbrouck, Robert W., Jr.
Hasbrouck, Louise J.
Hasbrouck, Mary M.
Hasbrouck, Phyllis R.
Hasbrouck, Robert C.
Hasbrouck, Robert D.
Hasbrouck, Roger C.
LeFevre, Herbert P.
McCollum, Marion
Merritt, Barbara J.
Nichols, Charlotte
Nichols, Jean E.
Page, Betty
Quinn, Winona
Smith, Caroline V.
Snyder-Smith, Johnna L.