PRESIDENT'S REPORT

HFA is now in its 51st year! At our 50th anniversary reunion in October I gave a recap of milestones in that first half century of our existence. Here are some of the highlights:

1957: On October 12 a group of Hasbrouck descendants led by Kenneth Hasbrouck formed the Hasbrouck Family Association for the purpose of (1) purchasing the Abraham Hasbrouck House for HHS (which already owned the Jean Hasbrouck House), (2) restoring the house and (3) expanding the family genealogy. Kenneth was its first president.

1961: The Abraham House was purchased from the New Paltz Dutch Reformed Church for $27,000.

1963: A California branch of HFA was formed as a result of Kenneth's visit to members there. (It no longer exists although we have quite a few members there. If you're interested in restarting it, please contact us.)

1964: Alfred Hasbrouck became treasurer, a post he maintained until his death 30 years later. HFA membership climbed past 400. (It's less than that now!) Attendance at Stone House Day was 3,550 (about 1,000 in 2007).

1965: HFA had 8 functioning committees (none now); a formal duzine of regional members was appointed. (It no longer exists.)

1970: After 13 years in the position, Kenneth Hasbrouck stepped down as HFA president. Membership passed 700, and the Endowment Fund was $20,000 ($460,000 now). Some time between 1967 and 1973 the Abraham House dormers were removed to restore the original appearance of the roof.

1978: A report on the Abraham House indicated that moisture had been a problem there since at least 1840.

1981: Aided by an intense program of family contacts by Helene Anderson, Kenneth and volunteers, membership exceeded 1,000! But it didn't last.

1987: Membership was reported at 491. I could not find any explanation for the decline but suspect that Helene and Kenneth could not maintain their earlier pace of family contacts.

1988: Rotting floor beams at the Abraham House were reinforced at a cost of $80,000.

1992: Received $285,000 from the estate of Gertrude Hasbrouck. Established scholarships (2 or more per year) in her name.

1993: After short-lived efforts in the '60s and '70s, the HFA newsletter was revived in its present form.

1994: Alfred Hasbrouck and Helene Anderson died. Helene left a bequest of $750,000 for support of the Abraham House. (That fund has since grown to $1.88 million.)

1995: HFA incorporated to validate its legal qualification to manage its own funds and relieve HHS of that fiduciary responsibility. But this action led to a "war" with HHS, which sued to assert control and had almost all of our funds frozen. Computerization of our genealogy was initiated.

1996: Kenneth Hasbrouck died after being seriously injured in an auto accident the previous year.

1997: After surviving financially for 2 years on member contributions, HFA won a court decision in one case and signed a "peace treaty" with HHS to end the war. HFA retained control of its funds and agreed to minimum support levels for HHS, which it has greatly exceeded ever since. (It was
never our intention to stop supporting HHS.) HFA is now an independent, tax-exempt family association and is considered an affiliate, rather than a subsidiary, of HHS.)

1999: HFA rented (and still occupies) a small New Paltz office at 124 Main Street.

2000: HFA helped fund replacement of rotted cellar beams in the Jean House. It also sponsored an anniversary booklet about the Jonathan Hasbrouck House (Washington's Headquarters Site) in Newburgh.

2002: Dendrochronology (tree-ring dating) revealed that the Abraham and Jean Houses were built in 1721, after the death of both patentees!

2003: Historic Structure Reports were completed for both houses.

2004: Initiated a comprehensive (and apparently successful) moisture control project at the Abraham House, preceded by archaeology which produced around 60,000 artifacts, some of them prehistoric.

2006-7: HFA and its members helped fund the $500,000 restoration of the sagging north wall of the Jean House – the largest project in HHS history. HFA’s finances are in satisfactory condition (see page 7), but membership has declined to around 300 – not a good omen for the future!

Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr.

OUR HOUSES

Jean Hasbrouck House
The north wall restoration project was completed around yearend with installation of authentic replicas of the original 1721 Dutch casement windows. (Their design is intricate; we should have a photo of the finished product in the next newsletter.) Interior restoration work is continuing, and HHS has so far raised $75,000 of the projected $125,000 cost. (HFA will contribute at least $10,000.) The current estimate is for reopening the house for self-guided tours in late July.

Abraham Hasbrouck House
The only activity of note since September was conduct of a periodic survey to detect wall movement at the house. Thankfully, the results were negative. A number of needed projects have been stymied by HHS’s lack of manpower to conduct or supervise them, a consequence of their strained finances. This was frustrating to us since our Anderson Fund has ample resources to cover these projects. We have just arranged with HHS to have consultant Neil Larson, at HFA’s expense, initiate and supervise some of these projects (using outside contractors) in coordination with HHS. We hope to have some progress to report in our next newsletter. Likewise, the analysis of 53,000 artifacts from the '04 archaeology project around the house seems likely to commence imminently after being set aside by higher priorities for the archaeologists (including the Jean House wall project and the new New Paltz sewer line extension running across HHS property behind the DuBois Fort).

Josiah Hasbrouck House (Locust Lawn)
There is a long list of needed maintenance/restoration items and nowhere near enough money to fund them. HFA will contribute several thousand dollars to help, but the needs are far greater. HHS will prioritize the needs and do what it can with available funds. Meanwhile an HHS task group (with HFA VP John Delamater as our representative) continues to explore possible plans to make the site (which includes the Terwilliger House) viable for the longer term, an objective complicated by its relatively isolated location 3 miles south of New Paltz.
50th ANNIVERSARY REUNION

The weatherman gave us an anniversary present of sunshine and mild temperatures for our reunion on October 13. Following our opening fellowship hour in Deyo Hall, HHS Executive Director Eric Roth gave us a status report on the considerable variety of ongoing and planned activities of the Society. Then we had our traditional memorial service at the French Church, after which Eric showed us the progressing interior restoration work at the Jean Hasbrouck House. From there we visited the encampment of Civil War re-enactors between the Jean House and the DuBois Fort and moved on for an interior tour at the Abraham House. Then it was back to Deyo Hall for a group photo, a delicious lunch catered by Main Course Restaurant of New Paltz, a review of the significant events through the course of our 50-year history, and our annual meeting, at which our five directors were re-elected for another year. The minutes of that meeting accompany this newsletter and are posted on our website. Our group photo is also on the website, as is an extensive slide show of photos from the reunion. (See also the photo coverage of Old New Paltz Day.)

The reunion this year will be on Saturday, October 11, which is on Columbus Day weekend. Mark it on your calendar and join us to reconnect with your Huguenot heritage and meet some interesting relatives!

HFA OFFICERS

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

Elected (These comprise the board of directors.)

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

Appointed by the President

Meryl S. Brown, Secretary
Eleanor C. Sears, Assistant Secretary
Thad M. Hasbrouck, Assistant Treasurer
HFA Directors (L-R):
Robert C. Hasbrouck, Jr., William G. Hasbrouck, John O. Delamater, Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr., Robert H. Freehill

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

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Many members still have not paid their dues for the membership year starting October 1, 2007, and a few are unpaid for longer periods. If you are in this category, you are receiving a reminder insert in this mailing indicating the details. Please continue to support your family association; we need you!

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. For 2007 there were 16 qualified applicants, and 9 awards were made. Although they all have outstanding academic records, the winners are a diverse group, each majoring in a different field in different colleges.

Two Gertrude Hasbrouck scholarships were awarded. One went to Laurel Wright, a LeFevre and Deyo descendant and a junior/biology major at Brown University. She also earned a Gertrude scholarship last year. She is specializing in molecular and cell biology and biochemistry with the tentative objective of a career in biological research. Besides her devotion to science, Laurel is also a talented musician, has experience in musical theater, has benefited from work/study programs in Peru and Mozambique, and, when at home, participates in a poverty aid program in Buffalo, NY.

The other HFA scholarship went to Tracy Robinson, a descendant of the Deyo, Hasbrouck and Freer families, who is a junior at the University of Miami with a double major in international studies and geography. Following a work/travel program in Vietnam last summer, she spent the fall semester in an overseas study program at Charles University in Prague. She is now participating in the Washington Semester at American University, which offers a seminar, internship and a 3-week field practicum in South Africa. After finishing at Miami next year, she is planning on graduate studies in development economics or urban geography with the goal of contributing to progress in developing countries.

Five of the seven HHS scholarships went to Hasbrouck descendants. Shelby Hasbrouck (also a Deyo descendant) set an HHS record by winning an award for a fourth consecutive year! She is a fifth-year student at Duquesne University on her way to becoming a licensed pharmacist and gaining practical exposure along the way with summer positions in the pharmacies of a chain drugstore and a hospital.

Joshua Hasbrouck (also a Bevier and Deyo descendant) is a junior at Wheaton College majoring in civil engineering. He is pointing toward the design aspect of the field with the objective of combining aesthetics and usability to create a superior end result.

David Hasbrouck is a junior at York College majoring in American History and studying the impact of the colonists in the New World. That includes the
role of the Huguenots, which of course is of particular interest. Ultimately David is looking toward a degree in theology.

Erica Decker (also a DuBois and Freer descendant) is a sophomore at Clarkson University majoring in communications and media with the objective of becoming a Website designer. She has already created sites for several campus organizations and is now working on more complex projects. But she also has a dream of opening and running her own coffee shop. It’s an easy prediction that it will have its own Website!

Katrina Hasbrouck (also a Deyo descendant) has the most unusual position among the winners. She is a sophomore majoring in equine studies at the University of Findlay (a top equestrian school) and specializing in hippotherapy: horse-aided therapy for people with disabilities. A specially trained therapist can use the horse’s movements to enable a riding patient to improve balance, posture, strength, motor skills and self-confidence. Katrina’s goal is to be able to train her own horses for this role and pursue a doctoral program to become a certified therapist in this field.

It’s obvious that Jean and Abraham could be very proud of this young group of their descendants. Our congratulations to all these fine scholars!

**POSTHUMOUS HONORS FOR GENERAL SHERMAN HASBROUCK**

Brig. Gen. Sherman V. Hasbrouck (1898-2002) was a founding member of HFA and instrumental in the purchase and initial restoration of the Abraham Hasbrouck House, in addition to having a distinguished military career (see May 2002 newsletter). December 6, 2007 was designated as General Sherman Hasbrouck Day in Kingston, NY, and he was honored as an outstanding alumnus at Kingston High School, where he won academic honors and was president of the school’s first graduating class (1916) as well as captain of the football team. At a ceremony in the school auditorium, civic and school officials lauded Sherman’s accomplishments and cited him as a role model for today’s youth, particularly those at Kingston High. HFA President Bob Hasbrouck was one of the speakers and recounted Sherman’s family background and early development growing up in Stone Ridge and going from high school to West Point (Class of 1920), then on to an outstanding 35-year career in the Army. A young Army captain, who, like Sherman, was a graduate of Kingston High and West Point, gave additional details about the general’s multi-faceted military accomplishments and his devotion to the men who served under him.
Following the auditorium ceremony, Sherman’s widow, Clara Hasbrouck, unveiled a photographic portrait of him and a companion plaque prominently located on a wall near the front entrance of the school. There they will serve as an example to the students of what can be accomplished by a local youth like themselves. In fact, over the years, five Kingston High graduates have become generals in the Army – possibly a record for a public high school.

MORE GUILFORD HASBROUCKS

Hillsdale (1800), home of more Guilford Hasbroucks. Note well in front of house.

Our last newsletter featured an article about the Guilford Hasbroucks. In fact, although the family line covered in the article acquired the Guilford Patent and were the original occupants (from around 1706), later there was another Hasbrouck family living nearby (both are in the town of Gardiner) which included HFA founder Kenneth Hasbrouck (see June ’06 newsletter). They occupied a farm with a stone house known as Hillsdale. Whereas the Guilford Bower Farm – home of the earlier family – was very close to the west bank of the Wallkill River, Hillsdale – though only a few miles to the west – is at the foot of the Trapps Mountain (a mecca for rock climbers). According to Gardiner historian Carleton Mabee, it was built around 1800 and was originally known as the Luther Hasbrouck House, although our genealogy does not show any Luthers who lived in the area of Gardiner. It was later purchased by Daniel I. Hasbrouck (1818-1905), a 5th-generation descendant of Abraham, reportedly to keep it in the Hasbrouck family. We don’t have a purchase date, but he was there in June 1843 when he married Margaret Jane Johnston six months after her brother married Daniel’s sister, also Margaret. Daniel operated the farm and supplied milk to local hotels, including Minnewaska.

Succeeding generations ran the farm after Daniel retired – first his youngest son, Johnston (1854-1945), then Johnston’s oldest son, Josiah LeFevre Hasbrouck (1899-1950), Kenneth’s father. Josiah took charge of the farm in 1912, at age 23. Kenneth was born there in 1916 and attended the one-room Guilford School nearby. He later recalled how blueberry pickers on Trapps Mountain persistently started fires there to improve the blueberry crop, and the fires often spread down the mountain and threatened the farm.

Josiah had attended Eastman Business College in Poughkeepsie and felt he was misplaced as a farmer. He and his wife, Agnes Riley, also disliked living so far from town. Thus in 1927 he sold the farm out of the family. Coincidentally, in the same year – and also because of its somewhat isolated location – Guilford Bower Farm was sold out of the family, thus ending the Hasbrouck presence in Guilford after more than 220 years.

The farm at Hillsdale no longer exists, but the house has been well maintained and is an attractive residence today (see photos), located at 22 Marakill Lane, just beyond Guilford School House Road.

We welcome our new members:

Elizabeth Cole, New Canaan, CT
Russ Hall, Kenosha, WI
Gail Hasbrouck, Middletown, NJ
Jayson R. Hasbrouck, Middletown, NJ
Julie Helm, East Sandwich, MA
George Hudson, Bethlehem, PA
Carol Kline, Raleigh, NC
Lisa Mowry, Acworth, GA
Susan North, Ludington, MI
John Robertson, Flat Rock, NC
Leslie Schlemmer, New Milford, CT
Our financial results in 2007 were mixed but generally more negative than positive. The stock market plunge in the 4th Quarter took its toll on our assets even though, except for holdings in two banks, we had no direct exposure to the meltdown in sub-prime mortgages. Our Endowment and General Funds have substantial investments in income-oriented closed-end funds, which – as a group – have been punished by investors selling to run for shelter in US Treasury securities. Both Endowment and General Funds were down 11% for the year. However, the income generated by these funds has been unaffected by the decline in their value, so there is no immediate effect on our ability to support our operating programs. Last year the income from the two funds exceeded expenses by $3,000. The decline in General Fund assets does inhibit our ability to help HHS fund the many improvements needed at the Jean and Josiah houses although we will provide at least as much this year as in 2007.

The Helene Anderson Fund (which finances all requirements at the Abraham House) did better last year. Sizeable gains in its energy and technology stock holdings offset the decline in income-oriented securities, and the Fund’s assets increased by 4%. Income also increased, while with little restoration activity going on and analysis of archaeology artifacts still on hold, expenses were low, resulting in net income of $63,000 for the year. However, the situation this year promises to be very different. (See Abraham House item on page 2.)
2007 CONTRIBUTORS

Endowment Fund

Atkins, Mary-Elizabeth
Clancy, Jean T.
Duke, H. Benjamin, III
Hasbrouck, Gail A.
Hasbrouck, Robert W., Jr.
Hasbrouck, Roger C.
Hasbrouck, Warren
Kaness, Betty F.
Patterson, Mary C.
Ryder, Frances B.
Smith, Caroline V.
Van Dyck, David H.

General Fund

Baldwin, Rosemary V.
Christensen, Susan
Cottrell, Christine
Dalrymple, Cornelia
Delamater, John O.
Fleckenstein, Edward A.
Hasbrook, Randy
Hasbrouck, Gail A.
Hasbrouck, Joseph F.
Hasbrouck, Louis
Hasbrouck, Mary Ellen
Hasbrouck, Phyllis R.
Hasbrouck, Robert C.
Hasbrouck, Robert W., Jr.
Hasbrouck, Roger C.
Hasbrouck, Thad M.
Hasbrouck, Warren
Kaness, Betty F.
Knox, Lois A.
Nutt, Mary B.
Officer, Sally C.
Ryder, Frances
Sears, Eleanor C.
Smith, Caroline V.
Thurber, Suzanne
Van Dyck, David H.

Jean Hasbrouck House Restoration

Alward, Dolores M.
Ashton, Robin H.

Cont.: Jean Hasbrouck House Restoration

Atkins, Mary-Elizabeth
Cheffy, Frederick G.
Cheffy, Frederick H.
Cottrell, Christine
DeNaples, Mary H.
Dixon, Jane S.
Forristall, Jean H.
Hasbrouck, Calvin D.
Hasbrouck, Donald H.
Hasbrouck, Douglas Bevier
Hasbrouck, Elizabeth
Hasbrouck, Gail A.
Hasbrouck, Malvina *
Hasbrouck, Robert D.
Hasbrouck, Robert W., Jr.
Hasbrouck, Roger C
Hasbrouck, Thad M.
Hasbrouck, Wallace E.
Hasbrouck, Warren
Hasbrouck, William A.
Kaness, Betty F.
Kleinknecht, Dorothy
Nichols, Charlotte
Nichols, Jean E.
Odenweller, Jane R.
Page, Betty
Quinn, Winona
Roberts, Patricia H.
Smith, Caroline V.
Snyder, Celia G.

*In memory of Ronald L. Hasbrouck

Eric Roth explaining the Jean House interior restoration to the reunion attendees. Behind him are Warren, Gail and Jayson Hasbrouck.

Thanks to all of you! We really appreciate (and need) your support!