



HASBROUCK FAMILY
ASSOCIATION

JOURNAL

PO Box 176, New Paltz, N Y 12561-0716

MAY 2000

Telephone 914-255-3223 Fax: 914-255-0624

Website: www.hasbrouckfamily.org E-Mail: hasbrouckfamily@email.com

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Our phone and fax numbers changing area codes: Effective June 5, the telephone **area code for New Paltz will change from 914 to 845**, and this change will apply to HFA's phone and fax numbers. However, during a transitional period through December, you can reach us using either of the two area codes.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Some of you may have been disappointed to miss the HHS-sponsored "Huguenot Historical Roots" tour to Europe mentioned in the last newsletter. It sold out to full capacity within two weeks of its initial announcement! There is still obviously a lot of continuing interest in such a trip, and you will have another opportunity. The Deyo family is sponsoring one next year which, as of this writing, will probably be open to the other HHS families as well. And HHS will probably sponsor another one in 2002. We'll keep you posted as specifics become available.

Relating to the restoration of the Abraham J. Hasbrouck grave monument in Kingston (see last newsletter), we have installed a bronze plaque to preserve for visitors the inscriptions on the monument, which are becoming illegible with the passage of time and cannot be restored. Coincidentally, the Huguenot Historical Society (HHS) has received as a gift a portrait of this same Abraham by the noted artist Ezra Ames. After some needed restoration it will be displayed in one of the HHS buildings.

We are making slow progress on the computerized genealogy since each successive generation has far more members than the one preceding it and our new administrator, Meryl Brown, is still familiarizing herself with the intricacies of the process. Keep sending us your information, and we'll get it all published eventually.

As of mid-May we've had over 2,000 visits to our website. Let us know what you think of the site and what else you would like to see there.

As an essential aid in boosting membership, all HHS families have been asked to produce membership solicitation brochures. We were already working on one, which should be available soon. We will send one to each HFA member to give to a relative or friend who might be encouraged to join the Association. You can request additional copies as needed. We need your assistance in ensuring the ongoing health of HFA by helping us to maintain an active and growing membership participating in our activities in support of our common heritage.

We also need input from you for this newsletter. Tell us what you like or don't like

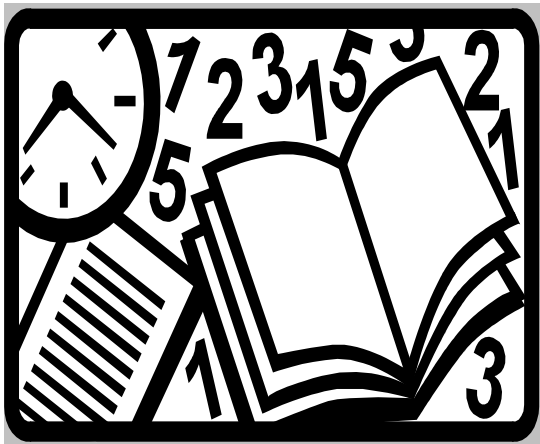
about it; we welcome your suggestions. Send us information about interesting family-related people, buildings, locations, and meetings (either current or historical). We try to have at least one such article in each issue; see, for example, in this issue the items about singer Liesl Odenweller and the Hasbrouck House in Michigan.

In addition, we're looking for broader membership involvement in HFA's activities. Please let us know if:

- a) you'd like to be involved in any of the activities you read about in the newsletters, or in an area you think we should be involved in but aren't
- b) you can do genealogical or historic research for us or are already doing such research that might be of interest to our membership
- c) you would be interested in becoming an officer of HFA

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr.



HFA OFFICE

Our New Paltz office will continue to be open by appointment only until such time as visitor volume justifies arrangements for

regular office hours. But if you are planning a visit to the area, leave a message on our answering machine or send us a fax or e-mail (see numbers 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. (Warning: the archives are not well organized yet; they fell into disarray in being split up and moved several times after Kenneth's death.) If you are doing family research, you may also want to see what is available in the HHS Library. Call them (914-255-6738) 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 Texaco station and far back from the street, but there is a sign at the driveway entrance, ample parking and handicapped access. In the same building is the New Paltz Chamber of Commerce, where you can get information and brochures on a wide range of attractions and accommodations in the area.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The deadline for scholarship applications has been advanced to July 21 so that scholarships can be available for the fall semester. If you are interested, contact HHS right away for an application and instructions: (914)255-1660 or hhsoffice@hhs-newpaltz.org.



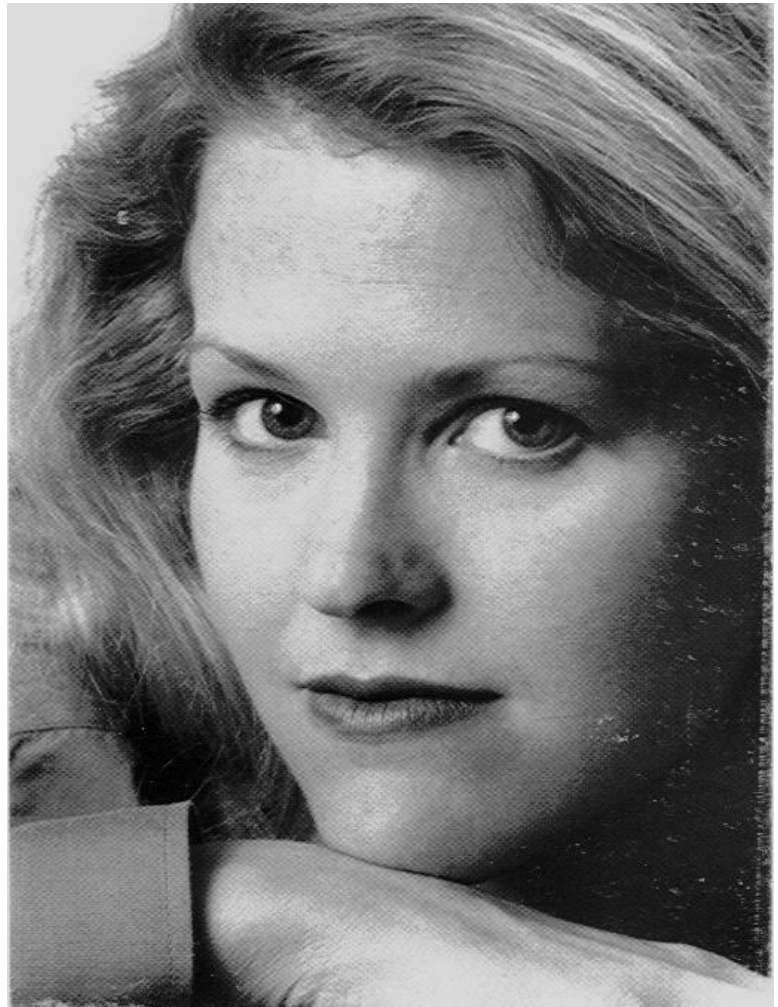
A RISING STAR TO WATCH AND HEAR

HFA member Liesl Odenweller is a great for your eyes (see photo) and ears as well. The young soprano, a 1988 graduate of Trinity College in Connecticut, maintains an active career both in the USA and in Europe, where she now lives (Venice). Equally at home on the opera stage and in concert halls, she is a versatile artist who can master the complexities of diverse types of music. She has been featured on Italian television, sung a world premiere at New York's Lincoln Center, and won numerous awards and grants, including the prestigious Liederkrantz Prize, the International Bellini Prize, and the Italian "Il Virtuoso" Prize. Liesl has sung leading roles in a number of operas and has more in her repertoire. She is also skilled in the recital repertoire of such composers as Rossini, Debussy and Tosti. She is currently appearing in the concert series "Concerts for the Jubilee Year" being presented throughout the Venetian area. And, like a real native, she sometimes performs on the canals of Venice along with a tenor and string quartet. A versatile young lady indeed!

If you would like to hear Liesl, you don't have to go to Italy. Last year she completed her first compact disc with two other very talented musicians: organist John Rose and harpist Rebecca Flannery. The content is varied: some old favorites, some 20th-century composers; mostly classical, but it also includes "Reflections on Southern Hymn Tunes." The disc is titled "One Son So Young", which is the name of the solo (by Liesl) cantata for Ascension Day that begins the program. In all, there is almost an hour of really lovely music. You can obtain the CD (postpaid) by sending a check for \$17 (\$18 for NJ residents) payable to:

Robert P. Odenweller and addressed to him at 40 Roundtop Road, Bernardsville, NJ 07924-2101.

Liesl's artistic talent is probably in her genes. She is the granddaughter of Eleanor Hasbrouck Rawlings, a long-time HFA member and well-known artist whose painting of Huguenot Street is on note cards still sold today by the HHS Museum Shop.



HISTORIC HASBROUCK HOUSE IN MICHIGAN



Marshall, Michigan, a town about 30 miles west of Jackson, is not a spot where you might expect to find a historic Hasbrouck family stone house, but indeed it has one (see photo) still occupied by a descendant of the original Hasbrouck owner. The history of the house, however, is not a simple one. There are no official records still existing from the time of its construction, but the best available research indicates that it was built as a farmhouse sometime between 1837 and 1841 by Andrew Pettigrew, a stone mason from New Paltz, NY. This explains its strong resemblance to the stone houses of Huguenot Street. Like the Abraham Hasbrouck House it has two front doors and was designed to house two families: the parents plus the oldest son and his family. There are four fireplaces, one in each of the two master bedrooms and living rooms. A wooden addition at the rear of the house was put on around 1847. A three-foot-wide water shelf was installed around the perimeter to keep water out of the basement.

Around 1841 Matthew Hasbrouck, a fifth-generation descendant of Abraham the Patentee, moved with his family from New

Paltz to Brooklyn, Michigan, about 12 miles south of Jackson. In 1861 he discovered the New Paltz-type house on the outskirts of Marshall and bought it along with the surrounding 400-acre farm. The growing family lived there happily for 22 years and often hosted visiting cousins from New Paltz in the summer months.

After Matthew's death in 1883 the farm was divided among his five children. Son Jehu inherited the house. However, as his brothers and sisters sold their land, there was no longer enough land for Jehu to make a living, and he was forced to sell the house in 1903. Over the next twenty years it fell into a neglected state. By 1923 the house was being used as a storage barn and its kitchen as a granary. A newspaper article stated, "The old place is now vacant and will probably never have another tenant."

That article spurred Jehu's daughter, Minnie Hasbrouck Moran, into action. Though living in Detroit at the time, Minnie and friend Marian Wilcox bought the house, refurbished it, and operated a tea room and gift shop there from around 1928 to 1935. The Huguenot Society of Michigan was organized in the house in 1937. In 1941 Minnie's niece, Rachel Bushong, and her husband, Max, exchanged their place in Marshall for the farmhouse. By then Minnie was ready for a more comfortable place in town while Rachel preferred country living.

Almost sixty years later Rachel is still living in the house. Max died in 1992, but son Tom helps her to maintain the historic structure. Rachel is an authority on local history and antique collecting. The house is richly decorated with antiques from the Victorian, Primitive and Federal periods. Thanks in no small part to Rachel's efforts, her Hasbrouck House was added to the Michigan State Register of Historic Places in

1984 and to the prestigious National Register in 1994. Kenneth Hasbrouck wrote a letter of support for the National application and included a 1920's photo of the house (see Illustration 8) in his "Hasbrouck Family in America, Vols. I and II." Here's hoping it will remain in the Hasbrouck family for many years to come.



Rachel Bushong with pictures of her grandparents, Matthew and Hanah Hasbrouck

Josiah Hasbrouck House (Locust Lawn): The HHS schedule for this year provides for replacing the kitchen roof and gutters, repointing the chimneys, and painting the exterior of the house. Longer-term plans call for extensive restoration of the entire site, including outbuildings and grounds.



CHANGES ON HUGUENOT STREET

HOUSE RESTORATIONS

Abraham Hasbrouck House: We are now selecting contractors and prioritizing/scheduling the work to be done on the house in carrying out the restoration plans prepared by our preservation architect, Kenneth Barricklo. It appears that most of the work will be done by the HHS restoration crew, and their first project will be replacement of the roof and gutters. They will be supplemented by outside contractors with expertise in specialty areas, such as masonry and metalworking.

Jean Hasbrouck House: The replacement floor-support beams have been cut but must be cured (dried out to avoid later shrinkage) before installation, which is now expected this fall.

On May 6 the houses of Huguenot Street were opened for the tour season with two major changes. The Visitor Center has been moved to the DuBois Fort, and the Museum Shop will move there in June. Thus, these activities will be directly on Huguenot Street where visitors can more easily find them. Deyo Hall has been renovated. The large downstairs hall has been redesigned specifically as a meeting room and is suitable for lectures, concerts and films. The downstairs area will also be used for tour groups and school projects, including some providing children hands-on experience with selected items from the HHS collection of artifacts. The upstairs areas are being used for collections storage.



UPCOMING EVENTS

250th Anniversary for Jonathan Hasbrouck House

As mentioned in the last newsletter, this year marks the 250th anniversary of the building of the Jonathan Hasbrouck House in Newburgh, NY and the 150th anniversary of its designation as Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site. Parks Dept. plans have changed; the anniversary celebration has now been divided into two events at the site on different dates. The first will be 5 – 10PM on July 1 and will be an outdoor entertainment event featuring music, period costumes, square dancing and fireworks. No date has been set yet (just "fall") for the second event, which will be more educationally oriented and in which HFA plans to participate. This event will focus on the history of the house and George Washington's activities there. Neil Larson is working for us to produce a commemorative brochure on the house for the occasion; a copy will be sent to HFA members. We may have other participation; right now the Parks Dept. plans are still vague. Hopefully we'll be able to give you specifics in the September newsletter.

STONE HOUSE DAY

Stone House Day on Huguenot Street this year will be on Saturday, August 19 from 10AM to 5PM. This is a family event with something of interest for all: house tours, historical reenactments, arts & crafts demonstrations, children's events, and live music at several locations. Last year 1,500 visitors came despite periodic heavy rain showers and had a great time anyway; the event proved itself to be worth attending in any kind of weather.

We particularly need HFA volunteers to show the Hasbrouck houses on Stone House Day. Visitors to all the houses say they are particularly impressed to have them tended by descendants of the original occupants. No training is needed. Each volunteer is stationed in a section of the house with an information sheet on that section for use in talking to visitors. If you can help us here, please contact our office or our Stone House Day coordinator, Eleanor Sears (914-338-6492).



HFA ANNUAL REUNION

Our reunion day this year is Saturday, October 7, in New Paltz. It will follow the usual format: registration/socializing and service in the French Church in the morning

followed by an educational program, lunch at The Locust Tree Inn, and our annual meeting. If you are coming from a distance and want to visit Huguenot Street in some detail, plan to spend at least one night here because the reunion will take up most of Saturday and you will need at least one additional day on the Street. The houses can be visited only on guided tours and are closed Mondays. If you will be a first-time visitor, contact us to help with your planning. The Hudson Valley is full of beautiful scenery and tourist attractions; you can easily spend an entire vacation here.

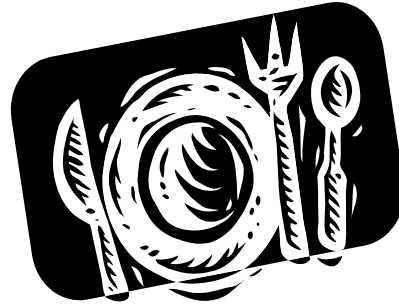
Anyone planning an overnight stay should make reservations as soon as possible. The reunion is on Columbus Day weekend, and accommodations usually sell out early. New Paltz has three good motels: Super 8 (914-255-8865), Days Inn (914-883-7373) and EconoLodge (914-255-6200). You can also get information on bed & breakfast inns in the area from the Chamber of Commerce (914-255-0243).

Mark your calendars for October 7 and plan to come and meet some relatives you never knew about!

ANOTHER HASBROUCK REUNION

The descendants of Fred S. Hasbrouck (1866 – 1937) and his wife, Mary St. Clair, have a reunion every year in Ohio (where Fred and Mary lived, as do many of their descendants). They usually have 30 – 40 attendees, sometimes from as far away as Maine, Florida and Texas. This year they will be gathering in Newark, Ohio, on June 17.

If you know of any other Hasbrouck family gatherings, please tell us, so that we can publicize them.

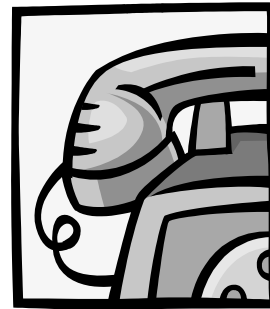


HUGUENOT COOKBOOKS

We now have an ample supply of the reprinted “As Our Ancestors Cooked”, compiled by Alice J. Hasbrouck. The book makes an excellent gift for friends and relatives and can be ordered from HFA (send check for \$13 each) or the HHS Museum Shop (\$12 plus shipping).

Telephone Reminder

Area Code Change



**June 5, 2000- New Paltz
Area Code 845**