



**HASBROUCK FAMILY**  
ASSOCIATION

# JOURNAL

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

After a harsh winter on Huguenot Street, spring has finally returned, and the houses opened for tours on April 30. The tour status of the three Hasbrouck houses is not normal; see details in the Our Houses item below. If you visit the Street, bring your membership card for free tours and a 10% discount (excluding books) at the museum shop in the DuBois Fort.

Last month the HFA Board of Directors reviewed the membership dues schedule and voted to recommend an increase from \$15 to \$20 for annual dues, from \$300 to \$350 for life memberships to age 65, and from \$150 to \$200 for life memberships at age 65 and over. Since \$10 of each annual dues goes to HHS, only \$5 is left for HFA, and that is not even enough to pay for these newsletters. Virtually all the other family associations are already at \$20 or higher, and the Board feels that HFA needs at least a \$20 level for the near future. Likewise, a \$50 increase for life memberships is very modest in relation to the multi-year benefits involved. Our bylaws stipulate that changes in dues levels must be approved by the general membership, so this proposal will be included on your proxy forms in September and the voting completed at our annual business meeting on October 8. If approved, the higher levels will become effective for the year beginning October 2006.

Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr.



## OUR HOUSES

### Abraham Hasbrouck House

Work should commence this month to complete the underground drainage project for carrying gutter runoff away from the house. This will allow removal of the very unhistoric and bizarre-looking green plastic drainpipes now handling the flow at each corner. A ventilation regimen consisting of a combination of cellar fan and window openings is in use, and moisture monitors around the house are providing feedback on the effectiveness of these measures. By the time we have achieved verified success with our moisture control efforts, HFA and HHS should have agreed on an interpretation plan to guide us in completing restoration of the house and resuming "normal" tours. Meanwhile, it will be open for tours this season with the same interim displays as last year. In addition, HHS is planning to acquire a case which will enable us to display a sampling of the many interesting artifacts found during the archaeological excavations last fall.

### Jean Hasbrouck House

The timetable for rebuilding the north wall has encountered a frustrating delay. The NY State archaeologist is requiring additional work at the site, which will not only delay the project but also add about \$40,000 to its cost. The bidding process has been set back from early spring to fall, and the work is now scheduled to begin in the spring of 2006 – a year behind the original schedule. In addition, the furnishings were removed in anticipation of the original '05 work schedule, so the house will still be closed for tours this year and also next year due to the project delay. As for funding, HHS received two more small grants (totaling \$8,000) but still needs about \$200,000 to cover the total cost of the project. To avoid further delay, it will initially pay these costs from its own

endowment fund, but that fund must be restored and, in fact, substantially increased if HHS is to be able to fulfill its mission to maintain the Street and continue to expand its educational activities. HFA maintains an account for Jean House contributions, and we hope you'll be generous in supporting this unique family house.

### Locust Lawn

HHS is still on schedule for reopening the house for tours, beginning with the Colonial Street Festival on August 13 and on weekends thereafter through the rest of the tour season, which runs through October. Meanwhile, much work remains to be on the house and its outbuildings. A new entrance and parking lot will be installed this summer, and the front of the house improved in appearance to receive and impress visitors again. An overall paint job is scheduled for next year.

### ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE ABE HOUSE



As described in the February newsletter, a major archaeological survey was conducted around the Abe House last fall as a prerequisite for NY State authorization for the underground drainage project. An astounding number and variety of artifacts were found, covering not only the historical period of the house, but also spanning a period of over 3,000 years! In all, eleven boxes of artifacts were collected, and they are now being washed and sorted by category. As of May 1, four boxes (including the most prolific areas) had been completed with an artifact count of 15,400! After the contents of all eleven boxes are processed, they will ultimately need to be analyzed and documented; but the cost of all this archaeology has strained the finances of the Anderson Fund, and the analysis/reporting process will have to be phased over time as funds for it become available.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Dues (\$15/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 05 on your mailing label, you're 7 months delinquent by now. Income tax preparation is no longer a distraction, and the Bush tax cuts must have saved you enough to pay your HFA dues. So get yourself up to date! We need your support.

### HHS POLICY ON HOUSE NAMES

The astonishing discoveries of recent years relating to our stone houses have upset traditional assumptions passed down through many generations about their origins. What a shock it was to learn that neither Jean or Abraham Hasbrouck had ever seen the houses attributable to them, which dendrochronology (tree ring dating) indicated were built instead by their sons, Jacob and Daniel, respectively! How, then, should we refer to these houses? Attendees at HFA's reunion last fall emphatically favored retaining the original names. And, besides tradition, there is a rationale for it. Jean and Abraham were the original patentees, owned the land on which the houses stand, and certainly did live on these properties. Indeed, the Jean House contains a small section which appears to be part of an earlier dwelling on the site – almost certainly Jean's. Furthermore, these original names have been used on many legal documents and publications, and the houses' public image is associated with these names.

Nevertheless, historical accuracy needs to be respected, particularly in a museum setting such as Huguenot Street. HHS has wrestled with this dilemma and produced a policy which the HFA Board of Directors has endorsed. It is reproduced below:

"HHS will continue to use the old designations to respect the historical association of the names with these houses, and the genealogical connections of descendants with the builders of the original structures, as well as for simplicity and ease of communication within the Historical Society.

"In recognition of recent research, however, all scholarly work, Society publications, signage, grant applications, and so forth, will acknowledge the Patentee and the builder. When both names are used, the later will be in brackets; i.e., Jean [Jacob] and Abraham [Daniel]."

### 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 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. If you are doing family research, you may also want to see what is available in the HHS Library. Call them (845-255-6738) 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 Citgo gas 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 this year is August 31, which means that awards will apply to the spring semester rather than the fall semester. To be eligible you must be (at that time) a college sophomore, junior or senior and be able to document Huguenot heritage. If you are interested, contact HHS for detailed requirements and an application: (845)255-1660 or [hsoffice@hhs-newpaltz.org](mailto:hsoffice@hhs-newpaltz.org).

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Colonial Street Festival**



Colonial officer enjoys a cup of ice cream while passing the Abe House at the '04 Festival

This is HHS's biggest event of the year and will be held this year on Saturday, August 13 from 10AM to 5PM. (Admission fees are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students, \$5 for ages 6-18, no charge for children 5 and under.) The houses of Huguenot Street will be open to visitors, and there will be historical reenactments, period arts & crafts and dancing demonstrations, children's programs, and live music. It's a great day of entertainment for the whole family, so be sure to mark it on your calendar. The festival is

organized and run by volunteers from HHS and the family associations, and we need HFA members to help with this effort. One of the most impressive experiences for outside visitors, they tell us, has been the opportunity to talk to actual descendants of the Huguenot families. Time periods for volunteers are 9:30-12:30, 12:15-3:00 and 2:45-5:30. If you can lend a hand for all or part of the day, please contact Eleanor Sears (845-338-6492) or the HFA office.

A traditional fundraising activity for this event is the raffle of a beautiful colonial-design quilt. You can expect to receive an HHS mailing about the festival with raffle tickets to sell, or buy yourself. There's no obligation, of course, but it's for a worthy cause – support for the many activities and programs of HHS. You don't have to be present to win.

### **HFA Annual Reunion**

Our reunion day this year is Saturday, October 8, in New Paltz. It will probably follow the usual format: registration/socializing and service in the French Church in the morning followed by an on-site update at the Jean and Abraham Hasbrouck Houses, lunch at Deyo Hall, 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 (845-255-8865), EconoLodge (845-255-6200), and Days Inn (845-883-7373). You can also get information on bed & breakfast inns in the area from the Chamber of Commerce (845-255-0243).

In the February newsletter it was mentioned that we are also considering the addition of a Friday OR Sunday event as well: a tour to see a variety of historic Hasbrouck houses in the area around New Paltz (there are quite a few!). We asked for indications of interest in such a tour and will plan it if there is sufficient interest, but there has been no response so far. IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SUCH A TOUR, LET US KNOW, INCLUDING PROBABLE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS AND PREFERRED DATE (OCT. 7 OR 9), IF APPLICABLE.

## THIS HASBROUCK WAS A STAR IN THE SILENT MOVIE ERA

Donna Hasbrouck, daughter of our former treasurer, Thad Hasbrouck, ran across a photo and a little information about Olive Hasbrouck, who was born Jan. 3, 1907 and appeared in silent movies during the period 1925-31 (and possibly later). A check of our database shows an Olive Elizabeth Hasbrouck, born Jan. 23, 1907 (a niece of family historian/researcher Raymond Delancey Hasbrouck). This could be a match – the birthdates differ by only a single digit, which could just be a typing error; but our entry for Olive Elizabeth makes no mention of movies. If you have any information about movie star Olive, please let us know, so we can place her properly in our family tree.



Olive Hasbrouck - star of silent movies

## HASBROUCK HISTORY BOOKS AVAILABLE



As mentioned in the February newsletter, we are now able to offer you Kenneth Hasbrouck's 1992 book, Earliest Records of the Hasbrouck Family in America with European Background. Of particular interest in this volume are (1) a 37-page chronology/diary written by Colonel Abraham Hasbrouck (grandson of the patentee) and his descendants covering his family history from the exodus from France through 1846 (including the only family-written account, frustratingly brief and incomplete, of the family experience in Europe); (2) the "French Letter", another link to our European ancestry, also maddeningly incomplete and ambiguous, claimed by both Hasbroucks and Beviers; (3) the will of Colonel Abraham Hasbrouck; and (4) 13 pages of reminiscences by General Sherman Hasbrouck, mostly about growing up in the Stone Ridge area but also covering some of his interesting military experiences. There are also photographs, other documents, and a brief account of HFA's founding, including the people involved.

This book is available to members for a postpaid price of \$35 for the hard-cover edition and \$25 for the soft cover as long as the supply lasts. You can also still obtain any/all of Kenneth Hasbrouck's The Hasbrouck Family in America -- \$30 for all volumes, \$20 for smaller orders. Send a check with your request to the Hasbrouck Family Assn., P.O. Box 176, New Paltz, NY 12561-0176.

## A HASBROUCK TRADITION – THE SERVICE ACADEMIES

Beginning already with Abraham the Patentee, many Hasbroucks have volunteered to serve their country through participation in its armed forces. The most prominent producers of military leaders over the last two centuries have been the service academies of the Army, Navy and Air Force; and their Hasbrouck graduates have been a credit to the family and the nation.

The oldest of the three is the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, founded in 1802. Its first Hasbrouck graduate was Henry Cornelius in 1861 (see May '99 newsletter). He graduated into the Civil War and was cited for gallantry and meritorious service in the Modoc Indian War of 1873. He was Commandant of Cadets at West Point (1882-8), became a brigadier general in 1898, and commanded a brigade in Cuba in the Spanish-American War. The next was Alfred Jr. in

1883. He served for 37 years and retired as a colonel. He saw action in the Indian Wars, the Spanish-American War (in the Philippines), the Boxer Rebellion in China and World War I.

The third Hasbrouck graduate was Robert Wilson Sr. in 1917 (see Spring '95 issue). He served in World War I, helped in the initial formation of armored divisions in the Army, was on General Omar Bradley's staff in the 1944 invasion of Europe, commanded the 7<sup>th</sup> Armored Division through the Battle of the Bulge and the rest of World War II, and was then Chief of Staff of the Army Ground Forces until retiring as a major general in 1947. Close behind him came Sherman V. in 1920 (May '02 issue). After interesting assignments during the '20s and '30s in the Philippines, Japan and Latin America, Sherman commanded the artillery of the 97<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in Europe in 1945. Soon after the war he was military governor of two prefectures in Japan and then held a senior position in the nuclear weapons development program until retiring in 1955 as a brigadier general. The only Hasbrouck graduate since Sherman has been Robert Wilson Jr. (1955), whose most notable achievement has been surviving the last ten years as HFA president (see Feb '05 issue).

The U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD was founded in 1845. Its first Hasbrouck graduate was the most distinguished – Raymond Delancey in 1892. He participated in the Boxer Rebellion in China, the Spanish-American War and World War I. During European assignments in the early '20s he did extensive research on the family's history there. He commanded the battleship California from 1924 until his death in 1926 from post-operative complications and was buried at sea from the ship.

We have little information about the other Hasbrouck naval graduates. Theodore, Class of 1923, retired with the rank of commander. Preston (1928) and John T. (1984) did not pursue careers in the Navy.

The U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, CO graduated its first class in 1959 and has two Hasbrouck alumni. The first, Jeffrey Roy in 1993, did not remain in the service. Brian Wallace, Class of 2002, is the only Hasbrouck graduate of the service academies in the last twelve years and the only one presently on active duty. He's an intelligence officer; and after a year in Korea he moved to an airbase in Florida, where his job is to keep the flying units updated on current conditions in Iraq and Afghanistan. However, at this writing he's on a 90-day rotational tour in Afghanistan, getting first-hand experience on the situation there.

There may be other family service academy graduates from female lines of descent with non-

Hasbrouck last names. If you're aware of any, please let us know. We would also like to publicize other family members who have served their country in military careers; one is featured below. Obviously, the service academies are not the only source of such people. Please send us information on any you know about.



### **HASBROUCK DESCENDANT WAS FLYING TIGER ACE**

John Van Kuren Newkirk (known as Scarsdale Jack), an 8<sup>th</sup>-generation descendant of Jean Hasbrouck, was a military hero of World War II who gave his life in the defense of freedom from aggression. Until now he has escaped our notice in this newsletter, and we will try to make amends with this article covering not only his personal story but also that of the remarkable organization with which he served – Claire Chennault's American Volunteer Group -- much better known as the Flying Tigers.



John Van Kuren Newkirk

Jack's grandmother was Isabella Hasbrouck, a daughter of Jacob L. Hasbrouck. In 1868 she married Frederick S. Newkirk, whose ancestry traced to early Dutch settlers. Their first child was Louis Hasbrouck Newkirk (1871-1950), who married Grace R. White in 1902. They had two children before she died of tuberculosis in 1908. He later married Edna Roos, and they had two sons, the first being Jack, born October 15, 1913.

Jack grew up in Scarsdale, NY, became an Eagle Scout and Scout Leader, and graduated from Scarsdale High in 1932. He studied aeronautical engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, graduated in 1938, and became a Navy fighter pilot. He was stationed in the Pacific aboard the aircraft carrier Yorktown, operating out of Pearl Harbor. By early 1941 the Japanese were invading China, threatening Southeast Asia, and becoming increasingly belligerent toward the USA and western European countries, which were trying to restrict their expansionist plans. Jack predicted American military involvement against Japan and told his sister that he wanted to get early combat experience to be of greater value as a leader and fighter when his country went to war. Thus, in the spring of 1941 he signed on with the American Volunteer Group (AVG), which was being formed to help save China from the Japanese invaders.

The AVG was a critical project for retired Army Air Force Captain Claire Chennault, who went to China in 1937 to help Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek organize his air force against the Japanese. In 1940 Chiang sent Chennault back to the USA to obtain American planes and pilots to oppose Japanese bombing of Chinese cities and supply lines. Despite the objections of top US military leaders (who opposed the diversion of resources from the fragile US military strength at that time), he obtained President Roosevelt's approval for the project, arranged with manufacturer Curtiss-Wright to purchase 100 obsolescent P-40B fighter planes, and recruited 100 pilots and 200 ground crewmen from the US armed forces. Because the USA was not yet at war with Japan, the project had to be disguised as a civilian enterprise. The volunteers, young men motivated by the prospect of an exciting adventure in a righteous cause, had to resign from the military and sign one-year contracts with the Central Aircraft Manufacturing Co. to manufacture, repair and operate aircraft for the Chinese government. They were designated formally as the American Volunteer Group. Claire Chennault's official position was adviser to the Central Bank of China. His passport listed his occupation as "farmer."

The first contingent of AVG personnel (including Jack Newkirk) sailed for Asia in July 1941. A week before leaving, Jack married his sweetheart, Jane Dunham. Their blissful honeymoon would prove to be their only married life together. The group landed at Rangoon, Burma (now known as Myanmar) and set up shop at a British Royal Air Force (RAF) base to assemble and test the arriving airplanes. The AVG was organized into three squadrons, and Jack was appointed leader of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Squadron (see board in photo). He quickly proved his leadership capabilities under trying circumstances as he organized and trained his men and maintained a high level of morale in spite of living in makeshift barracks in the jungle during the rainy season. Their primitive planes had no gun sights, bomb racks or auxiliary fuel tank attachments; all these had to be improvised and installed. Then the pilots were trained by (then "Colonel") Chennault in aerial combat tactics based on his years of experience against Japanese planes in China. Their job was to protect the famous Burma Road from Rangoon across the Burmese mountains into China – that region's sole remaining open supply route – from Japanese air assault. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Squadrons moved to airfields at the Chinese end of the road, while the 3<sup>rd</sup> remained to join with the RAF in protecting the port of Rangoon. The pilots started with orientation flights and familiarized themselves thoroughly with the territory they were covering. Their P-40 aircraft bore Chinese insignia, and the pilots wore information panels in Chinese on the backs of their flight jackets informing anyone on the ground who encountered them that they were fighting for China and should be protected (see photo).



Flying Tiger P-40 and, at right (Nationalist Chinese flag and script), the information panel worn by pilots on the back of their flight jackets.



The AVG went into action against the Japanese for the first time on December 20, 1941 and was almost continuously engaged thereafter as the Japanese pressed their invasion with overwhelming force by both air and ground assault. The AVG pilots quickly showed the aerial combat skills that created their lasting legend. In their first 11 days of action they shot down 75 planes while losing only 6 planes and 2 pilots. Chennault's experience-proved tactical instruction was invaluable. In joint AVG/RAF actions in Burma, the RAF's "kill ratio" was about 1:1, whereas the AVG's was 15:1 – this despite the British flying Spitfires, which were much superior to the AVG's P-40s. The big difference was the tactics. The RAF used tactics learned fighting the German Luftwaffe, which operated much differently from the Japanese. Thanks to Chennault, the AVG pilots knew Japanese aerial tactics (and how to counter them) better than many of their opponents!

To give their planes a more fearsome appearance, the AVG personnel copied a feature they ran across in magazine photos of German Messerschmidt-210s in Europe and British P-40s in Africa. They painted a sharp-toothed shark's mouth and eyes on the front fuselage of their P-40s – a design that quickly became their hallmark. Their exploits soon earned prominent coverage in American newspapers and radio broadcasts, for theirs was the only American success story in those dark, early days of the war. They were surprised to find themselves lauded as "The Flying Tigers." To this day no one knows for sure how this term originated; possibly it was a misinterpretation of the shark's head design painted on the planes. In any event, the name stuck, and a legend was born.

Jack Newkirk proved himself to be a fearless combat leader, participating in every mission his squadron flew, and earning the respect of his men. (The press called him "Scarsdale Jack", but his self-chosen nickname was "Danger".) On December 30 his 2<sup>nd</sup> Squadron, called "The Panda Bears", replaced the 3<sup>rd</sup> in the defense of Rangoon. In early January 1942 the Panda Bears took the offensive in strafing raids on enemy airfields in nearby Thailand. Jack led the first raid, and his squadron continued these raids through the rest of the month despite Japanese retaliatory efforts with superior strength. On one such raid the Americans destroyed about 60 planes on the ground, their biggest victory of the war. The British awarded Jack Newkirk the Distinguished Service Order; he was the first American to receive this high honor in World War II. With typical modesty he attributed the honor to his unit and radioed home, "Squadron decorated."

Although the Flying Tigers continued to punish the enemy, it was to no avail. With their superior numbers, both ground and air, the Japanese captured Rangoon at the end of February, and the Tigers were forced to redeploy to airfields in northern Burma. But they had cost the enemy dearly and had earned themselves a far-ranging reputation. In their 2 ½ month defense of Rangoon with a force that varied from 5-20 serviceable planes, they had faced over a thousand enemy planes in the air and inflicted 217 definite kills and 43 probables while losing only 16 planes (some on the ground) and 6 pilots.

In March the Tigers and their RAF partners continued to oppose the steady Japanese advance northward through Burma. By this point the AVG/RAF group had about 30 serviceable fighters left to face a Japanese force of 400-500 planes. On March 19 two Tiger P-40s raided an airbase deep in Thailand and destroyed 19 planes on the ground. Determined to end this harassment, the Japanese struck back on the 21<sup>st</sup> with a damaging 266-plane raid on the Tigers' main remaining airfield in Burma. On March 24 the Tigers counterattacked with planes flying from a base in China. The famous ace, "Pappy" Boyington, led 6 planes from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Squadron against the Japanese airbase at Chiangmai, Thailand (now a major tourist resort). They caught 40 planes on the ground preparing for another raid on the Tigers' Burma base, and destroyed them all. Jack Newkirk led a flight of 4 Panda Bears, which strafed a column of trucks and armored cars along a nearby highway. During a strafing run his plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire, exploded in a ball of flame, and crashed into the jungle; Jack did not survive. His brief but brilliant military career ended at age 28. Official records credit him with 10 ½ definite "kills" of enemy planes in the air, although some reports at the time gave higher numbers. He left for us a measure of his fine character in a letter to his wife:

"There are certain things in every man's life that he cannot bear to leave undone if he is manly. Murder and bullying of peaceful, innocent peasants is one of those things I cannot stand for. Until I have done all in my power to relieve the situation, I cannot leave it for the other fellow. Besides, this task is ours only, for we are the only ones who are qualified to do it, and we need every ounce of manpower, every financial and material support and every mental uplift, or the whole thing will be impossible."

Jack certainly set a shining example in carrying out these convictions.

The Chiangmai raid slowed the Japanese offensive and gave the British and Chinese more time for a successful evacuation of troops and equipment northward into China. But the enemy offensive was unstoppable, and by the end of April they completed their occupation of Burma.

The end was approaching for the Flying Tigers. The men's one-year contract was expiring, and they were weary and strained after five months of intensive combat. Their Burma Road mission had ended, and with America now in the war and marshaling its formidable strength, more help for China from the USA was on the way. In the meanwhile, the Tigers continued to aid the war effort in interior China, providing close air support for Chinese troops, defending cities against air raids and, in their final days, escorting newly-arrived American bombers on missions in Japanese-occupied areas.

The AVG/Flying Tigers were disbanded on July 4, 1942. The surviving planes were absorbed into the new China Air Task Force, which in 1943 was expanded into the 14<sup>th</sup> US Air Force, commanded by now-General Claire Chennault. The men scattered to resume their interrupted lives; but, not surprisingly, considering their spirit of patriotic dedication and the war in progress, many of them continued to serve their country, some in military service and others in the defense industry. A few even elected to return to China with the 14<sup>th</sup> Air Force.

The Flying Tigers had compiled an amazing record. In seven months they had destroyed about 300 enemy planes with another 153 "probables". They lost only 12 planes and 10 pilots killed in air combat, although 61 planes were destroyed on the ground in Japanese air raids. With courage and daring, against overwhelming odds, they and their RAF allies kept the Burma Road – China's vital supply lifeline at the time – open for 2 ½ critical months. And their success provided a big boost for both Chinese and American morale at a time when it was badly needed amid the string of setbacks in the early days of the Pacific war.

There is a final, satisfying chapter to add in the story of Jack Newkirk. After the war his body was recovered and buried in India. When his family received this news in 1947, they arranged to have the remains brought back to America, where in 1949 they were reinterred by his half-sister, Janet, in a Newkirk family plot at St. James the Less Church in Scarsdale.

Jack was honored as a war hero in a number of ways after his death, but there was a surprising development more recently. In 1993 two American military buffs and a Thai Air Force officer searched the jungle area where Newkirk crashed and found a piece of metal from his plane and then his original makeshift

grave in a rice field, along with a memorial, which had crumbled. Aware of his exploits, the Royal Thai Air Force erected a stone monument, topped by a bust of him, in a Chiangmai cemetery. It was dedicated in 1999. The legend of Scarsdale Jack still lives, both among his family and friends at home, and in the faraway place where he "gave his tomorrows for our todays."



Flying Tigers in formation

### **EVENTS CALENDAR**

(Your attendance is invited)

- June 11 HHS Annual Meeting in New Paltz (10AM through lunch)
- August 13 Colonial Street Festival on Huguenot Street (Volunteers needed at Hasbrouck houses)
- October 8 HFA Annual Reunion in New Paltz



**We welcome our new member:**  
Paul Hasbrouck, Lawrenceville, NJ