



HASBROUCK FAMILY

ASSOCIATION

JOURNAL

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

SEPTEMBER 2000

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Summer is the busiest season for repairs and restoration work on our historic houses, and crews have been busy at all three Hasbrouck Houses in the New Paltz area. The initial steps of a comprehensive restoration of Locust Lawn (Josiah Hasbrouck House) are under way, and the cellar beam replacement project has been completed at the Jean Hasbrouck House. HFA has been most directly involved at the Abraham Hasbrouck House since we control the Helene Anderson Fund, which finances the "preservation, maintenance and improvement" of the house. Our preservation architect, Kenneth Barricklo, has been working with HHS to implement his extensive plan for restoration of the house. Roof replacement is an early priority, and large shingles have been selected which are typical of those used on such houses in 1750. (This is the official "period of interpretation" selected for the Abraham House by a committee headed by Charles Hasbrouck when he was president of HFA in the mid-'80s.) The contents of the house have been moved into storage, and it has been closed for tours until the project is completed some time next year. A stonemason is at work on the walls, a blacksmith is making period metal hardware, and HHS is making bricks of several sizes. A site drainage plan is being developed. Examination of the windows has uncovered older frames under some of the present ones, and we are still reviewing restoration options for them. It's a busy time at all three houses!

On the other hand, we are frustrated by developments relating to the autumn educational

event at the Jonathan Hasbrouck House in Newburgh celebrating the 250th anniversary of the house and the 150th anniversary of its designation as Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site. The event has been tentatively scheduled for October 7 – the worst possible day for us since it conflicts with our annual reunion on the same day. However, we are proceeding with the production of a commemorative brochure by Neil Larson to mark the anniversary and expect to have an HFA exhibit at the Newburgh event.

Also frustrating are complications Meryl keeps running into in trying to complete the genealogy. Trying to integrate data in the six volumes of "The Hasbrouck Family in America" and add new entries, she is finding discrepancies, inconsistencies and missing links, all of which require tedious research to sort out. Also we have to review, update and add to the historical articles accompanying the genealogy. But we are making progress, so don't give up hope, and keep sending your family updates.

The date for our annual reunion is fast approaching, and we have an interesting program planned (see separate article). Also, this is the time to renew annual memberships. Enclosed in this mailing is a multi-purpose page for dues payments, contributions, luncheon

MEMBERSHIP DUES

reservations and voting by proxy at the annual meeting. Even if you owe no dues (life members) and can't attend the meeting, mail back your proxy if you want your vote to count. Note that we are voting (as required by our by-laws) to ratify the dues increase approved by your Board of Directors early this year (see details in separate article). You may note also that the usual cast of characters is being presented for reelection as officer-directors. This is because no one has responded to our call for new candidates. The call is still open. If you are interested in learning about what's involved, contact our office or any of the present officers.

Also enclosed in this mailing is a copy of our new membership-solicitation leaflet. Please give it to a non-member relative or anyone else you think might be interested in HFA. Contact our office anytime you want more leaflets and tell us how many. This period of annual renewals is an especially appropriate time to give memberships to your children and help them to develop an interest in their fascinating cultural heritage. The longer-term health of our organization depends on having younger members enthusiastic about carrying on its objectives as the older ones inevitably fade from the scene.

Whether young or old, let us hear from you! My requests over the last year for input for this newsletter and for your ideas and suggestions have brought no response. With almost 500 members scattered around 39 states and several foreign countries, someone must have something interesting to submit! Contact us by mail, e-mail, phone, fax or personal visit (see addresses on masthead) and give us some interesting stories/information or just a piece of your mind!

Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr.

Enclosed is our annual membership dues notice. If your mailing label has an L on it, you are a life member and owe no dues. If you think you are a life member and don't have an L on your label, contact our office for follow up. Annual members who don't have a 00 on their mailing label owe dues in arrears at \$10/year as determined by the year on your label. Please send in your dues now; reminder notices are expensive! Coping with a substantial operating deficit, HHS has increased the annual payment due from family associations from \$5 to \$10 for each member (annual-basis members in HFA's case). Since our annual dues are only \$10 and we obviously must maintain some dues income for our own use, our directors voted to increase annual dues to \$15, as shown on the enclosed response form. The directors also reviewed the dues for life memberships, which haven't been changed for many years. After looking at the life dues of other family associations and the effect of inflation since the current rate was established, the board voted to increase the life membership dues to \$300 (\$150 for age 65 and over). Our by-laws require that dues increases be approved by the membership; so if you won't be at the annual meeting, please complete and return the proxy form enclosed in this mailing.

If you wish to maintain your membership and feel you cannot afford the dues, please write us explaining your situation and requesting a waiver, which will be granted where circumstances warrant. We especially don't want to abandon long-time members whose current Financial condition makes the dues a hardship.

ANNUAL REUNION

Our reunion this year is on Saturday, October 7 in New Paltz. We will have registration, coffee/pastries and socializing beginning at 9AM in the newly renovated Deyo Hall, and house tours will be available. (The Abraham House will be closed for public tours, but note HFA visit below.) At 10AM HHS Curator Leslie LeFevre Stratton will show us the portrait of Abraham J. Hasbrouck ("Abraham of the Strand") recently donated by a descendant. Coincidentally, this is the same Abraham whose Kingston grave monument was recently restored with HFA funding. (See photos of the gravesite plaque we installed at the foot of the monument to reproduce illegible inscriptions on the monument and the February newsletter for his biography.) At 10:15AM HHS Executive Director Jack Braunlein will update us on what's going on with HHS (a lot!). At 11AM we'll have our traditional service in the French Church, following which we'll cross the street to the Jean House for a look at the completed beam replacement project we have helped to fund. Then we'll proceed to the Abraham House, where our preservation architect, Kenneth Barricklo, will show us the restoration work going on there. At 12:45PM we'll meet at the Locust Tree Inn (north end of Huguenot Street) for a group picture followed by lunch and our annual business meeting, which will include a presentation commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Jonathan Hasbrouck House (Washington's Headquarters) in Newburgh. We should be finished by 4PM. (Please make lunch reservations on the enclosed form.) Bring your HFA or HHS membership card for free house tours and a 10% discount (except on books) at the HHS Museum Shop.

If you are visiting Huguenot Street for the first time, we strongly advise you 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 to visit Huguenot Street. The houses can be visited only on guided tours and are closed Mondays. Locust Lawn (Josiah Hasbrouck House) is not open for regular tours, but HHS can provide a private tour for members on Friday, October 6. Mark the enclosed form if you're interested. Feel free to 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:

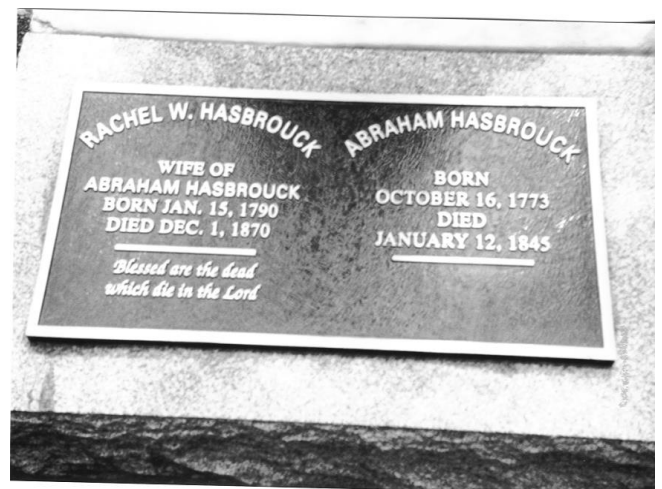
Super 8 (845-255-8865)

EconoLodge (845-255-6200)

Days Inn (845-883-7373).

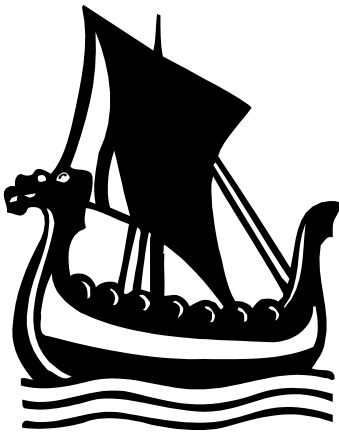
You can also get information on bed & breakfast inns in the area from the Chamber of Commerce (845-255-0243).

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



JEAN HOUSE BEAM PROJECT

HHS has just completed the replacement of rotted floor support beams in the Jean Hasbrouck House. The cost of this major project is about \$60,000, of which half is covered by a New York State grant. Since the Jean House (unlike the Abraham House) has no endowment, the balance must come from HHS general funds and donations. Since it is a Hasbrouck house, we want to help as much as possible, and HFA has contributed \$20,000 from its unrestricted funds. Our individual members have donated about \$2,000 so far, and we are now making a final request for your support on this project. If you would like to make a contribution for this ancestral house, please enter the amount on your dues form on the line provided for "Jean Hasbrouck House Beam Project."



IS HASBROUCK A VIKING NAME?

The commonly accepted origin of the Hasbrouck name is that it derives from the French and Flemish words meaning "marsh of the hares." (See details in article on our website.) But that doesn't appeal to Michel Hasbrouck, a former commander of the Paris infantry regiment, who sent us this intriguing alternative:

In the old Norse mythology the universe was divided into four sections, each having its own gods. The war gods, living in the sky, were the Ases. They were dedicated to defending the Heim gods, who stayed on the earth working the land, hunting and fishing. When the Heims called for help, the armed Ases came from the sky on a rainbow, the Ases Bridge, or in German, Asebruck.

This word was adopted as a Viking name. When, around the year 1000, the Vikings invaded the Low Countries (what today is northern Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and French Flanders), they were led by chiefs who gave their names to the towns they founded, one of them being our Hazebrouck (first mentioned in print in 1122 with the spelling Hasbruc) and others in Belgium with similar names (Assebroek near Bruges and Asse near Brussels).

Michel Hasbrouck much prefers to associate his name with this noble origin rather than "rabbits in a swamp," as he puts it. Could he be right? You'll have to decide. There is no definite proof of the name's origin. It's an interesting theory we hadn't heard previously.

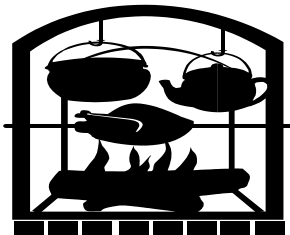
Incidentally, Michel is now a dog breeder, trainer and writer. He is currently establishing a complete website on dogs in French and English to include an encyclopedia, a club, and a complete store. Although he is proficient in English, he would appreciate some help on the English version from an HFA dog enthusiast. Do we have any? If you're interested, let us know, and we'll put you in touch with Michel.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The HHS Scholarship Committee (including HFA representative Robert Freehill) is evaluating a record 26 applications, including 6 from Hasbrouck family members. The most outstanding applicants will receive \$2,000 Gertrude Hasbrouck scholarships funded by HFA, and other winners will receive \$1,000 HHS scholarships. Freehill reports that most applicants have high qualifications, making the award decisions difficult. Winners of the Gertrude scholarships will be published in the newsletter.

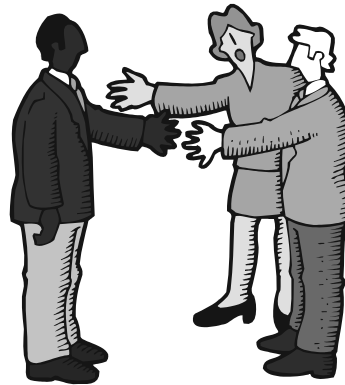
STONE HOUSE DAY

August 19 in New Paltz was marked by perfect weather (making up for last year's rainy skies) and a large turnout (about 2,000) for the third edition of Stone House Day (revived in 1998 after a lapse of 20 years). All the stone houses on Huguenot Street were open (except for the Abraham Hasbrouck House under restoration) as were Locust Lawn (Josiah Hasbrouck House) and the nearby Terwilliger House four miles to the south. All were staffed by volunteers in period costumes, many of them descendants of the original inhabitants. In fact, period costumes and activities were present in such abundance that visitors sometimes had to make hard choices when two or more "must see" attractions were going on at the same time in different locations. Arts and crafts demonstrations, musicians, dancers, and seven units of military reenactors were featured, and there was a children's entertainment area, French-language church service, period fashion show, puppet show -- the list goes on. It was a day-long treat for the entire family. If you missed it this year, make a note on your calendar to reward yourself with a visit next August.



HUGUENOT COOKBOOK

We now have an ample supply of "As Our Ancestors Cooked," compiled by Alice J. Hasbrouck. (You should have received a free copy after it was reprinted by HFA late last year.) Looking ahead to your Christmas shopping list, this book makes an excellent gift for friends and relatives. You can order copies on the enclosed dues form.



We welcome our new members:

Mr. Steven R. Shook , Moscow, IN
Mr. Brian R. Mommsen , Fort Lauderdale FL
Ms. Teresa Hasbrook , Rush City, MN
Ms. Lois Hardy, Mullen, NE
Mr. Kenneth Ross Hasbrouck,
Pacific Palisades, CA
Mrs. Roberta J. Horvath , Hesperia, CA
Ms. Katherine Wright, Alameda, CA
Mrs. Rebecca Tsuji, Cass Lake, MN

Life Members

Mr. Michael T. DiNoto, Dunkirk, NY
Ms. Christina Sears, Casselberry, FL

A Sad Farewell to a family member:

Mr. Ralph E. Palmer, Scotia, NY

To All Members:

I would like to update member files by including your e-mail address. Kindly fill out the appropriate line on the proxy form and forward it with the proxy in the return envelope.

Thank you very much,
Meryl Brown