



HASBROUCK FAMILY  
ASSOCIATION

# JOURNAL

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

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our annual reunion is fast approaching, and a reservation form is enclosed with this newsletter. Note that, for ease of mailing, we have a single, two-sided form for dues/contributions, reservations and proxy voting. Please be sure to fill out both sides of the form. For details on the reunion schedule see the separate item on page 2. Annual members, please send in your dues promptly to spare us the time and expense involved with follow-ups to delinquents. Our life memberships are a bargain at \$300 (\$150 for age 65 and older).

On the form we are asking again for special contributions for the Jean Hasbrouck House. The estimated cost for restoration work there is around \$500,000. HHS received a \$250,000 grant for the project from the Save America's Treasures Fund of the National Park Service plus several grants totaling \$35,000, but that still leaves a long way to go. Since it's our family's house and a critical, visible, touchable piece of our heritage, we're asking for your help in financing this project and otherwise caring for the house, which – unlike the Abraham House – has no endowment to provide financial support. Please indicate your contribution on the line for that item on the dues/reservation form. As you'll see on the form, we're also looking to your generosity for contributions to our General Fund (which pays for our activities other than the Abraham House) and our Endowment Fund (the income from which feeds the General Fund). As mentioned previously, our income is shrinking with the

current low interest rates – a threat to our programs. Please mail back your forms to reach us no later than September 26, so that we can meet the caterer's deadline for a luncheon headcount.

With the annual membership cycle starting in October, I'm also asking for your help in recruiting new members for HFA. Ask your relatives to join. 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. As mentioned last year, a potential aide for interesting young people in their Huguenot origins is an issue of Calliope (a history magazine for children) devoted entirely to the story of the Huguenots (all in Europe except the last page, which features New Paltz). It's available for \$5.95 through the HHS Museum Shop. I found it interesting reading as an adult and would recommend it for about sixth grade and up. The Shop also has an adult-level issue of Christian History magazine about the Huguenots (\$5.00). Call them at 845-255-4544 if you're interested.

Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr.

## ANNUAL REUNION

Our reunion this year is on Saturday, October 8, in New Paltz. We will have registration, coffee/pastries and socializing beginning at 9AM in Deyo Hall, and house tours will be available starting at 10AM. Also at 10AM HHS President Eileen Crispell will update us on what's going on with HHS. At 11:15AM we'll proceed to the French Church for our traditional short memorial service. Afterwards we'll visit the Jean and Abraham Houses for an update on what's happening and planned at each one. At 12:45PM we'll meet back at Deyo Hall for a group picture followed by lunch, a presentation on the exciting archaeological discoveries at the Abe House and our annual business meeting. 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 and music) 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. 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)

Rodeway Inn (845-883-7373).

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

Mark your calendars for October 8 and plan to come and find out about your extended family!

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

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 05 on their mailing label owe dues in arrears at \$15/year as determined by the year on your label. Please send in your dues now; reminder notices are expensive! If you don't want to bother with annual dues, life memberships are \$300 (\$150 for age 65 and over).

If you wish to maintain your membership and feel you cannot afford the dues, please tell us your situation and request a waiver. We especially don't want to abandon long-time members whose current financial condition makes the dues a hardship.

Unlike the unincorporated family associations, membership in HFA does not include membership in The Huguenot Historical Society (HHS) although it does include all the benefits of HHS membership\* except voting rights. If you want membership in HHS (and we encourage it), annual dues are \$20 for individuals or \$30 for families. You can send them a check at 18 Broadhead Avenue, New Paltz, NY 12561.

\*Main benefits are (1) free house tours, (2) 10% discount at museum shop (except for books and music), (3) HHS newsletters, and (4) one free research request to HHS Library/Archives.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the HFA Board of Directors is recommending a modest 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 is included on your enclosed proxy forms, and the voting will be completed at our annual business meeting on October 8. If approved, the higher levels will become effective for the year beginning October 2006.

## **OUR HOUSES**

### **Jean Hasbrouck House**

Restoration work will commence next spring, probably in April, and should take 3-4 months. In the meanwhile required archaeological work is starting this month, and the bidding process for the restoration work is planned for this fall. The project now includes (1) tearing down the exterior wall and rebuilding it with its original stones; (2) repairing the south wall and chimney; and (3) grading the foundation. Because of the work the house will be closed next year. HHS is working on an interpretation plan to be implemented when the house reopens.

### **Locust Lawn**

Resumption of regular tours has been postponed until next spring. HHS has not yet been able to secure an acceptable bid for installation of a new driveway and parking lot northwest of the house – necessary for safe access by both cars and buses. However, they will try to provide a private tour for visiting HFA members who want to see the house. Contact HHS at 845-255-1660 if you're interested.

### **Abraham Hasbrouck House**

The improved underground drainage system for handling gutter runoff has finally been completed and appears to be working well. On an ongoing basis HHS is ventilating the house and monitoring moisture conditions. We are eager to find how much improvement occurs now that the drainage system is functioning properly. We are also monitoring to detect any possible movement that might be taking place in the walls. Washing and sorting of the artifacts collected in the archaeological excavations last fall is still proceeding. At this writing 7 of the 11 boxes have

been processed with a total of about 30,000 objects!

The departure of HHS Executive Director Jack Braunlein for the top post at Lyndhurst is a loss for the Huguenot Street community, which has experienced a huge increase in the scope and intensity of its activities under his supervision. The immediate impact on HFA is that resumption of joint HFA/HHS discussion and planning for the interpretation of the Abe House will have to await participation by Jack's successor. HHS hopes to have a replacement on board by yearend, so no progress is likely until next year.

## **COLONIAL STREET FESTIVAL**



A volley from the colonial muskets

Torrid weather discouraged some people from going to the Festival on August 13<sup>th</sup>, but those who were there were obviously enjoying the event despite the temperature climbing to 98 degrees.

The Colonial Street Festival on Huguenot Street is the Huguenot Historical Society's biggest event of the year. There are a number of things going on simultaneously throughout the day (stone house visits, craft exhibits, colonial-era military reenactments, entertainment, children's activities and more). Certainly there is something interesting for visitors of all ages to do every minute. All the historic houses on the Street were open, many staffed at least partly by their family members. HFA was represented by 4 volunteers: Richard Hasbrouck demonstrated his fish-net-making skills while Fran Ryder and Eleanor Rawlings with daughter Sally Skidmore explained

the Abraham House. That's great because visitors say talking to actual Huguenot descendants adds a lot to their experience on the Street. In addition to the New Paltz houses, Locust Lawn and the Terwilliger House were also open with shuttle-bus service provided from Huguenot Street.

The Colonial Street Festival is a fascinating treat for all ages. You should mark your calendar for the next one on August 12, 2006 and bring the family.



Children are happily occupied at the Festival



Re-enactors share an authentically prepared 18th century meal



D.F. Hasbrouck-Remarque and signature from a print

## A PAIR OF HASBROUCK ARTISTS

There have been a number of skilled artists in our family, including HFA member Eleanor Rawlings (see Sept. '03 newsletter). But only one achieved a measure of national prominence: DuBois Fenelon Hasbrouck (1860-1917), a 7<sup>th</sup>-generation descendant of Jean.



DuBois Fenelon Hasbrouck (1860-1917)

He grew up on a farm in Pine Hill, 30 miles from New Paltz, and was the fourth of the eight children of Josiah and Mary Hasbrouck. They took in summer guests on their farm, and in 1876 a noted New York City artist, John George Brown, stayed there on a sketching tour. After watching Brown at work, 16-year-old DuBois was inspired to try it himself and produced his first picture on a board using homemade materials. Brown recognized latent talent in the boy, gave him some painting supplies, and urged him to study art as a profession. He received no encouragement from his parents, even after he had achieved recognition. They felt he should take a regular job where he could earn some money. Nonetheless, he began to paint regularly, to the detriment of his farm work and despite his father's complaints and efforts to discourage him. His paintings caught

the attention of another summer guest, Rev. Howard Crosby, who bought several pictures and in 1878 arranged for him to spend three months at the Cooper Union Art School in New York City. This was his only formal training; thereafter he was self-taught.

In 1884 DuBois displayed a painting publicly for the first time at a National Academy exhibition. From that time on he became a full-time artist. He lived in New York City but spent considerable time in the Catskills painting the scenery there. While at his parents' farm he met another summer guest, Ada Cook, daughter of a prominent Newark, NJ businessman. She was twelve years older than he, separated from her husband, and had three children ranging from 11 to 19 in age. Despite their age difference they fell in love and were married in 1888. Although they had no children together, they remained devoted for life despite the difficulties they encountered. He loved to have her play the piano in his studio while he worked.

By 1888 DuBois was an established artist participating in national exhibitions. Shortly after 1893 he moved from New York City to Stamford, NY, a summer resort in the Catskills. He sold a number of paintings in the area and illustrated a brochure of the Ulster and Delaware Railroad promoting the summer resorts along the line. His paintings were also sold by galleries in New York and Newark.

DuBois painted only landscapes, producing both oil and water-color works as well as pen-and-ink sketches. Woods were a favorite subject, as were rural buildings, and they generally featured a brook, stream or pond as well. Human figures and animals which appear are distant and indistinct; apparently he never learned to draw them in detail. These characteristics are illustrated in the works shown here.

In 1901 the artist was hospitalized briefly for a mental condition from which he recovered and continued to paint landscapes, many of which were sold to the summer visitors to Stamford. In 1907 he suffered a mental relapse and was again hospitalized in the Middletown sanitarium. Again he recovered under his wife's care and resumed painting. In 1915 one of his works was exhibited at the National Gallery of Art in Washington. But

about this time he had a stroke which left him unable to paint. A wealthy patron enabled DuBois and his wife to winter in Florida, where he largely recovered and was able to resume his work in Stamford. But while walking alone in the woods there on September 22, 1917, he suffered a second stroke and died.

Since his death his paintings have been exhibited occasionally and are still sold in galleries. In preparing this article the writer found several of his works being publicized for auction on gallery websites.



"Spring Fishing" by DuBois Fenelon Hasbrouck



"Winter" by DuBois Fenelon Hasbrouck

The works of another Hasbrouck artist are available at the HHS Museum Shop, which features a small collection of sketches by Dr. Alfred Hasbrouck (1820-1902).



Self-portrait by Dr. Alfred Hasbrouck (1820-1902)

Alfred was a descendant of both Abraham and Jean. His father, Joseph, was a fourth-generation descendant of Abraham. His mother, Jane, was the first child of Josiah Hasbrouck, the Jean descendant who built Locust Lawn, which is where Alfred spent his childhood. He graduated from Kingston Academy, Yale University (1844) and the New York College of Physicians, where he earned a medical degree in 1846. In 1848 he married Margaret Manning and settled in Poughkeepsie, where the couple raised eight children. Alfred practiced medicine in Dutchess County for fifty years. He sketched familiar sights as he made his medical rounds by horse and buggy. The available records give no evidence that he had any formal training in art, but his sketches are very well done and show a considerable amount of detail, as you can see from the two shown here. Somehow seven of these sketches were collected and published (probably by Kenneth Hasbrouck) as a portfolio a few years ago. The collection costs only \$7.95 (+8% tax on NY State purchases) through the HHS Museum Shop and includes Locust Lawn, two Guilford houses (also homesteads for his family), the Jean House, Washington's Headquarters (Jonathan Hasbrouck House), Inglenook on Huguenot Island (in the St.

Lawrence River), and Sailing on the St. Lawrence (on the portfolio envelope cover).



"Guilford 1844" by Dr. Alfred Hasbrouck



Jean Hasbrouck House by Dr. Alfred Hasbrouck

## **ELTING MEMORIAL LIBRARY IN NEW PALTZ WAS LONG A HASBROUCK HOUSE**

Many HFA members who visit or pass by the Elting Memorial Library at 93 Main Street in New Paltz probably don't realize that the historic stone house comprising the original library building has a long association with the Hasbrouck family, though that period is sandwiched between ownership by Eltings. Surprisingly, there is no definitive evidence of when the house was built. There are reports that put the date as early as 1740 and as late as 1824. It may have been built by Solomon Elting, and was certainly owned by him in the early 1800s. His son Ezekial inherited it and sold it to Charles B. Hasbrouck (a fifth-generation descendant of Abraham) in 1855. Charles sold it to his brother,

Clinton, in early 1866; but Clinton died late that year, and his youngest son, Oscar, inherited the house. Solomon Elting maintained a general store in the building, as did each subsequent owner until Oscar's death in 1899. His widow, Theora LeFevre Hasbrouck, continued to live there until her death in December 1919. She willed the house to her friend, Elting Harp. Thus the Hasbrouck ownership stretched over 64 years from 1855 through 1919.



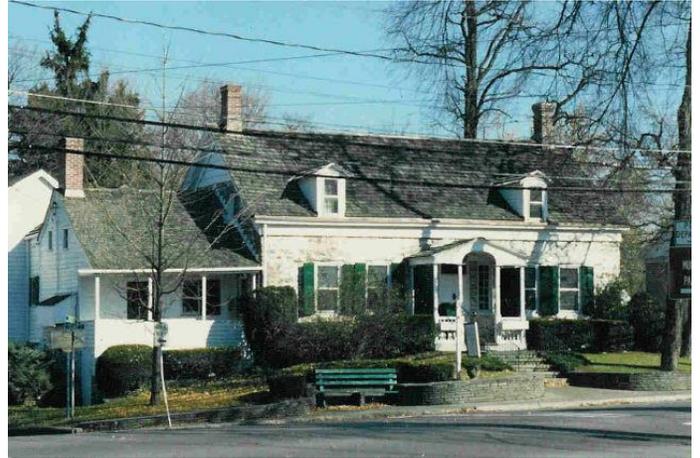
Oscar and Theora Hasbrouck with maid outside their house in the late 1800's

At the time of Theora's death the village library was outgrowing its space in a commercial building on Main Street. A board member, Loretta Elting DuBois, contacted her cousin, Philip LeFevre Elting, about the problem. He approached Elting Harp and asked Harp to sell him the house to be used as the village library. In May 1920 the purchase was made for \$4,000, and Mr. Elting then donated it for the library, which was then named The Elting Memorial Library.

Since then, new wings have been added (1962 and 1978) as the village grew, and a 9,000 square-foot expansion is now in the works. But the old stone house will still be an integral part of the library and the only section facing on Main Street. Thus the library's historic origin will still be very evident to the public, though its Hasbrouck connection is not.

Some of our members may be interested in the library's Haviland-Heidgerd Historical Collection, which specializes in the history and genealogies of New Paltz and the Hudson Valley.

It is a non-circulating collection but a valuable source for research and local lore (as is the HHS Library & Archives on Huguenot Street).



Elting Memorial Library today  
(The dormers were added in 1894.)

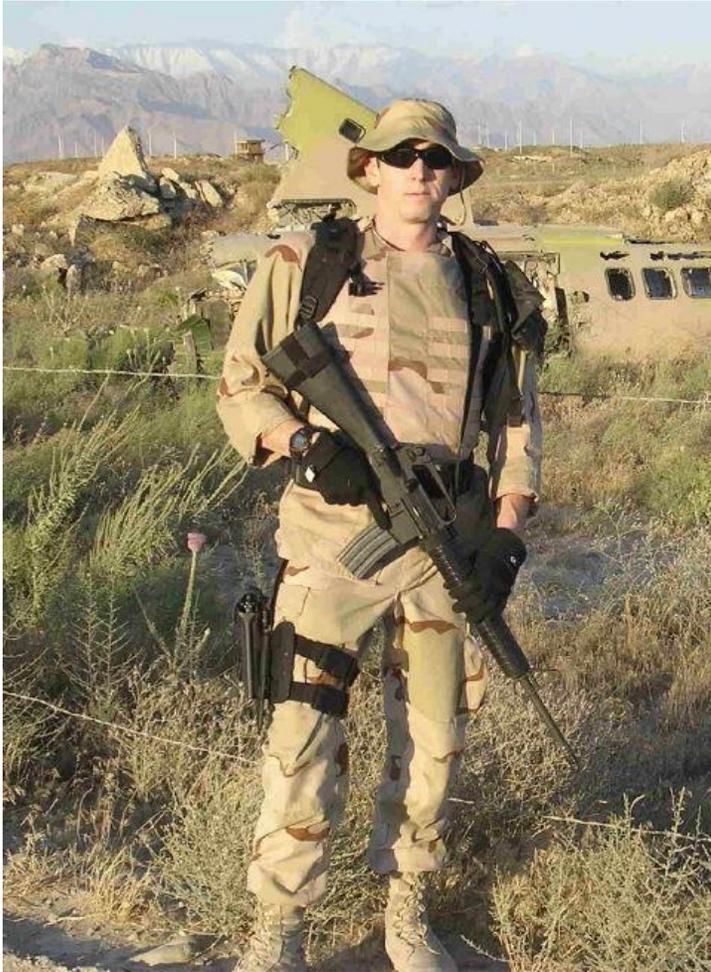
## HASBROUCK MOVIE STAR IDENTIFIED

In the May newsletter we asked for additional information to find silent movie star Olive Hasbrouck's place in our family tree. With a little detective work we succeeded in verifying -- as we had speculated in May -- that she was the Olive Elizabeth Hasbrouck listed in our database. However, that finding proved to be just the proverbial "tip of the iceberg." The story of Olive and her family turned out to be so interesting that it merits a full-scale newsletter article, and we're still researching a few aspects of it. So hopefully it will be covered fully in the next (February) issue. In the meanwhile, we've included a photo showing Olive (at age 19) in action in a 1926 movie.



Olive Hasbrouck (at left) in "A Six-shootin' Romance"

## **BRIAN HASBROUCK BACK FROM AFGHANISTAN (BUT NOT FOR LONG)**



Lt. Brian Hasbrouck in Afghanistan

Our May newsletter mentioned that '02 Air Force Academy graduate 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Brian Hasbrouck was on a rotational assignment in Afghanistan, where he was involved in providing intelligence support for US operations at the large Bagram Air Force Base. Brian recently returned and shared some impressions with us. His specific duties are classified, but we talked about the excellent close air support for US ground operations with aircraft on constant alert to respond quickly to calls for help from ambushed ground forces and frequently flying cover above US patrols in the countryside. The Air Force also utilizes unmanned drones to provide surveillance and pinpoint target locations. Although the Bagram base has experienced several rocket attacks, Brian said that insurgent activity is more isolated and at a far lower level than in Iraq; that, for the most part, people are

able to pursue their normal lives in peace and are happy to be free from the violent environment of the past and the oppressive Taliban rule. To be sure, there are still plenty of problems there, such as independent warlords, weak central government, economic dependence on poppy growing and the related opium trade, and inadequate infrastructure. The most important near-term goal is to carry out the September 18<sup>th</sup> national elections in a fair and peaceful process – no small feat in a country which has no experience in democracy.

Brian is presently back at his home airbase in Florida now, but he'll be rotating again to Afghanistan before Christmas. Please keep him and all our troops in your thoughts and prayers.



### **MORE PHOTOS ON WEBSITE**

Additional photos related to several items in this newsletter are (or shortly will be) posted on our website ([www.hasbrouckfamily.org](http://www.hasbrouckfamily.org)), so take a look. (Click on newsletters, then on SEP 05 Photos) The photos on the website are in color.

### **We welcome our new members:**

Vivian Burns, Mobile, AL  
Alice W. Cross, Accord, NY  
Jerrold L. Hasbrouck, Tampa, FL  
Robert W. Hasebroock, Omaha, NE  
Helen M. Ransky, West Windsor, NJ  
Robert H. Russell, Portland, OR  
Celia Snyder, Urbana, IL  
John P. Wells, Cape Girardeau, MO