

# *The Huguenot Herald*

Volume 9, Number 3

Fall, 1999

Telephone: (843) 723-3235

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

FAX: (843) 853-8476

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from  
Daniel Ravenel

I am happy to report the state of your Society is good. We are already well into the search to find a new Executive Director. I am sure the membership, as evidenced by its many comments to me and other members of the Board of Trustees, knows the difficulty of replacing Barbara Claypoole. While it sounds a bit hollow, she has been the heart and soul of our Society. All of our excellent staff have so-called "part time employment" that has been characterized by full time effort and lots of volunteer hours. Barbara, especially, has been tireless and will continue to be our best ambassador. She has organized and directed our development from a post office box to a library and Society recognized literally around the world for its expertise and ability to assist scholars and families. Her biggest assets have been her enthusiasm and tact. These qualities are often needed in a position that has required her to be something of a genealogical referee. We could not have had any one better and now we have started the impossible task of finding a successor.

The Board has placed advertisements and notices around Charleston to obtain applicants for the position. If you or someone you know would like to be considered, please send your resumé with a letter to me in care of the Society. We seek a member, but do not require membership of applicants. We know that new skills and talents will emerge and therefore are reluctant to place strict criteria on the table. The incoming Director will be immediately engaged in the planning process that I announced in my last letter. Our hope is to have an announcement of the new Director by October 1<sup>st</sup> and to be in the transition before the end of the year. Accordingly, I have appointed a search committee of Past President Arthur Wilcox, long-time Vice President Lucia Heins, current Treasurer David Maybank, Jr., and myself to screen and interview the candidates and make recommendations to the Board.

As I sat to write this letter, I received a second resignation from long-time archivist and librarian Melissa Wyndham-Ballentine who feels the need to be at home more with the children. Melissa has been extremely valuable as we set up the computer system, updated our member files, and built the library. She has been a loyal, steady office leader and will continue her involvement as a genealogical researcher. In addition, Melissa will, on an independent basis, review and sign membership applications.

This unexpected second departure means that for the fourth quarter of 1999 we will be shorthanded. We hope you will bear with us as we rebuild our Staff. This society is fortunate to have the continuing and most capable services of Dot Huff, our Registrar, and Susan Hemminger, Publications Editor.

Following this message you will find a letter from Treasurer Maybank in which he describes our financial structure. As time goes on we continue to see more demand for service and the higher costs of providing it. Mr. Maybank gives a clear call for an Annual Fund. In the past we have had generous contributions from our membership to buy and furnish and, most recently, expand our library and offices at 138 Coming Street in Charleston. The debt of some \$51,500 has been incurred to accomplish this expansion and to refurbish the carriage house as an income-generating rental property. This has been accomplished without the depletion of our endowment which has grown by twenty percent in recent months. The Annual Fund (for current operations) has not been an organized effort. If we are to "be all we want to be" (to paraphrase) and yet kept the dues at a minimum as Mr. Maybank states, we will need your generosity. Please think of your Society by the end of the year.

## THE TREASURER'S MESSAGE

from  
David Maybank, Jr.

The year 1999 has seen your Society operating within budget, and, hopefully, it can continue to do so through year end. Black ink is only possible through the generous "Annual Giving" contributions of our wonderful membership. As with most non-profit organizations, dues income alone is not sufficient to operate The Huguenot Society, so I urge each one of you to consider an "Annual Giving" contribution between now and year end. I can assure you that it will be most appreciated! Also, it is tax deductible. We operate on the "Fund Accounting" system and have a Building Fund with its own checking account. If you designate the Building Fund for your contribution, that is where it will go. Building repairs, maintenance, and improvements, as well as building debt (currently \$51,500) are paid from this account. Other non-designated gifts are placed in the General Fund from which general operating expenses are paid.

Also during 1999 we received a very generous contribution to our endowment. Together with our loyal membership, a well-endowed Society insures the future of the organization. Our endowment now stands at approximately \$240,000. Substantial growth is needed and your Board will soon set some goals for future capital giving. Meanwhile, we sincerely solicit operating and capital gifts before the end of 1999. I remind you that capital gifts can also take the form of "deferred giving". Remember The Huguenot Society in your will.

## AUTUMN MEETING

Plans are being finalized for the Meeting of the Society on October 17, 1999. The meeting will be at the Huguenot Church at the usual service time of 10:30 a.m. The congregation is invited to attend a collation at 44 Queen Street right after the service. The guest speaker at this service will be Dr. Erskine Clarke, Professor of Religion at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. A minister of the Presbyterian Church (USA), Dr. Clarke has written several books as well as a number of essays, articles, and reviews. He is also Editor and Publisher of *Journal for Preachers*.

Two of his books are of special interest to members of the Society. One, *Wrestlin' Jacob: A Portrait of Religion in the Old South* received the "Book of the Year Award" by the Dixie Council of Journalists and Writers and an "Outstanding Academic Book of the Year" from the American Library Association's *Choice* magazine. It will be re-issued in Spring 2000. The other one, *Our Southern Zion: Calvinism in the South Carolina Low Country, 1690-1990*, is available for reading at the Huguenot Society library.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### The James and Charlotte Gignilliat Scholarship

The South Carolina Historical Society has awarded the 1999 James and Charlotte Gignilliat Scholarships to Miss B. Pringle Claypoole of Charleston, S. C.; Miss Pauline Lanier Simmons of Folly Beach, S. C.; and Mr. Jonathan Walker Duvall of Boca Raton, Florida. These students are descendants of Huguenots who immigrated from France or Switzerland to the United States before November 18, 1787.

For information about the scholarships, contact The South Carolina Historical Society, 100 Meeting Street, Charleston, S. C. 29401. The deadline for next year's applications is February 15, 2000.

### The Marie L. Rose Scholarship

The Marie L. Rose Huguenot Society of America Scholarship is available to American students at a number of colleges and universities. Interested students should apply to the Financial Aid Office of one of the listed colleges {please call or write us for the list} for the application form for this \$1,400/year scholarship. Applicants must be able to prove descent from a Huguenot who left France for America or other countries before 1787. Additional information is available at The Huguenot Society of South Carolina.

## **The Huguenot Society of the Founders of Manakin in the Colony of Virginia Scholarship**

Any undergraduate college student or high school senior who has been accepted at a college or university is eligible for this scholarship. The contest involves writing an essay for a \$1,000 scholarship prize.

The essay must be on a topic relating to the history of the Huguenot movement in Europe, colonial America, and the Virginia colony, and the settlement at Manakintowne. The essay can be of any length but must be typewritten (double spaced) and must contain a bibliography. A committee of the Society will make the final decision, and the award will be paid directly to the winner for use in further education. The society reserves the right to first publication of the essay in the annual report. The author will retain all other literary rights in the manuscript. For more information write to Audrey C. Karlovich, P. O. Box 160, Kingston, Georgia 30145-0160.

Send two typewritten copies to :

Director, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture  
P. O. Box 8781  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-8781.

### **IN THE FUTURE**

#### **Fall Candlelight Tours**

Again this fall, the Preservation Society of Charleston will host its Candlelight Tours of Homes and Gardens. The Tours begin on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and go to October 30<sup>th</sup>. To find out more about these wonderful opportunities, telephone the Preservation Society office at 843-722-4630 or write to them at P. O. Box 521, Charleston, S. C. 29402.

#### **Edisto Island Tour**

Saturday, October 9, 1999, is the day of this year's tour of the high lights of Edisto Island. The tour (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) includes Brick House Ruins {grounds only}, Middleton Plantation, Presbyterian Church of Edisto Island, Seabrook House (Dodge Plantation) {grounds only}, Oak Island Plantation, Old First Baptist Church, Trinity Episcopal Church, Pine Baron {grounds only}, and Tabby Ovens Ruins.

Tickets must be reserved before the day of the tour. Ticket prices are \$20.00 (adult), \$5.00 (6-16), and \$15.00 (members). For more information telephone the Edisto Island Historic Preservation Society at (843) 869-1954. Or, mail checks for reservations to EIHPS, P. O. Box 393, Edisto Island, S. C. 29483.

#### **Twelfth International Meeting of Huguenot Descendants**

The Comité Protestant des Amitiés Françaises à l'Étranger has begun planning for the next reunion of Huguenot descendants. The reunion will take place September 15-21, 2000. The basis of the programs will be Protestant Brittany.

The meeting will begin in LaBaule where such protestant shrines as Nantes, Blain, La Roche-Bernard, and the Guérande Peninsula will be visited. The meeting then travels to Saint-Malo by way of Josselin Castle and Pontivy. There will be visits to Combourg, St-Michael's mount, Ducey, and Vitré, as well as a day trip to Jersey.

The committee will send registration forms and a detailed program in October and November of this year. For direct information, contact The Comité at 47, rue de Clichy, 75311 Paris Cedex 09, France. To get in touch with them by telephone or FAX, dial 011 33 1 48 74 25 72.

#### **An International Conference**

Another reminder: The Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland will present a conference on 5-7 April 2000 as a commemoration of the 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary of King Edward VI, charter of 1550. This charter

granted "strangers" the right to hold Reformed services in England. The conference will be held at Austin Friars Church in London. This church was given to the Dutch and French for their worship services. The French soon moved to St. Anthony's Church at Threadneedle Street. The Dutch still worship at Austin Friars.

The title FROM STRANGERS TO CITIZENS was chosen because many groups other than French and Dutch found refuge in London. During the post-Reformation period and after, Flemish, Germans, Italians, Jews, Walloons, Moravians, and Waldensians also found a safe haven. Some of these people used the area as a springboard for moving on to distant places across the seas. All of these groups will be discussed at the conference.

Additional information on this conference, *From Strangers to Citizens: Integration of Immigrant Communities in Great Britain, Ireland, and the Colonies, 1550-1750*, is available at The Huguenot Society of South Carolina office. Or, contact The Huguenot Library in London by telephone (0171 380 7094) or FAX (0171 993 4835). The Library in London can also be contacted by e-mail at [c.littleton@history.bbk.ac.uk](mailto:c.littleton@history.bbk.ac.uk). The Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland will send a leaflet to us with their magazine in October. Anyone interested in being kept informed of conference developments can contact Dr. Charles Littleton by telephone, FAX, or e-mail as stated. Or, write the Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland, University College, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, England.

**Weg der Hugenotten nach Deutschland und Danmark  
(The Way of the Huguenots to Germany and Denmark)  
A Huguenot Heritage Tour**

Get ready for our exciting new Huguenot Heritage tour to GERMANY and DENMARK set for the fall of 2000. The French Huguenots were invited to Germany by Frederick I and fortunately for us settled in some of the most picturesque areas of Germany. The itinerary is now being planned in detail, but will definitely include BERLIN and COPENHAGEN. You will also see the charming smaller towns where the Huguenots lived, Huguenot churches and museums, and we hope to be able to worship with Huguenots in Germany or Denmark. Barbara Claypoole is contacting Huguenot organizations in Germany and Denmark and trying to arrange meetings with some of them. Start planning now!

Bill McIntosh of McIntosh Travel is planning and fine-tuning this unusual and interesting tour of one of the areas of Huguenot migration. Details will be made available as soon as possible.

If this article seems to be a repeat of the article that was in the last newsletter, it is! Mr. McIntosh is still in the process of finalizing the details and will let us know the first moment he has everything in order. It is hoped that the latest news will be available at the Autumn Meeting!

**A VARIETY OF BOOKS**

*Abigail's Story: Tides at the Doorstep  
The Mackays, LaRoches, Jenkinses, and Chisolms of Low Country South Carolina 1671-1897*  
by  
William Greer Albergotti, III

William Greer Albergotti, III, a member of the Huguenot Society, has done a great service by researching, writing, and publishing this superb work on these well-known Low Country families. As always, Mr. Albergotti's research and documentation are meticulous; his writing is clear and delightful. The reader catches a real-life look at Abigail's personality and character as "This collection of personal and historical facts, observations, and anecdotes tells her story in a way that is informative, occupying, moving, and always interesting." (Quoted from the book jacket.)

This book was published by The Reprint Company in Spartanburg, S. C., just this summer. For information on ordering *Abigail's Story*, contact the Society office.

*How They Kept the Faith*  
*A Tale of the Huguenots of Languedoc*  
by  
Grace Raymond

This particular book is not new, but rather is a reprint of an historical novel first published in 1889. Dr. Mary Crow Anderson described it wonderfully in her article "The Huguenot in the South Carolina Novel" (*Transactions* 103, 1999) when she showed how the principal characters demonstrated the Huguenot characteristics that were apparent in novels of the Colonial period.

The story of four orphan children is somewhat like that of Christian in *Pilgrim's Progress*. The children, all Huguenots, set out on a dangerous journey to Amsterdam in order to escape religious persecution. As they made their way, their strong, never-faltering trust in God was always apparent. There is something to be learned from the fact that they gave up everything for their Huguenot faith. Because of the children's faithfulness to God and the way it is presented, this novel is an excellent one for both adults and teenagers.

Neither this book nor *St. Bartholomew's Eve: A Tale of the Huguenot Wars* by G. A. Henty (mentioned in the last newsletter) is yet available for purchase at The Huguenot Society. *St. Bartholomew's Eve...* can be ordered from Canon Press at 1-800-488-2034 for \$19.50, shipping not mentioned. *How They Kept the Faith* is available at Inheritance Publications at 1-800-563-3594 for \$12.90 plus \$2.50 shipping. Or, any local bookstore can probably order either one.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Internet Access

The Society's web page is not up yet, but should be in working order by the time this *Herald* is put in the mail. The plan is for the site, [www.huguenotsociety.org](http://www.huguenotsociety.org), to be on the Internet by September 1, 1999. In the meantime, remember to use [huguenot@cchat.com](mailto:huguenot@cchat.com) or the individual addresses: [director@cchat.com](mailto:director@cchat.com) (Barbara); [archivist@cchat.com](mailto:archivist@cchat.com) (Melissa); [registrar@cchat.com](mailto:registrar@cchat.com) (Dot); and, [transeditor@cchat.com](mailto:transeditor@cchat.com) (Susan).

## SOME FINAL THOUGHTS

### *Transactions* 103

After all the delays, *Transactions* 103 was finally put in the mail on July 22, 1999, a Red Letter day for the Society! Now, on to Number 104. It is hoped that preparation of the next one will be more smooth than this last one.

Please let the office know if your address has changed recently or will change any time in the near future. Keeping the address file current is an on-going project. It helps a whole lot as far as mailing and postage is concerned if addresses are correct. The amount of money spent on returned *Transactions* and *Huguenot Herald*s could be spent better elsewhere!

### Christmas Ideas

The way time passes these days, it will not be long before Christmas is upon us! So, for some early gift ideas, look on pages 78 and 79 of *Transactions* 103. There you will find lists of the books and other items for sale at the Huguenot Society. Included in the lists is the cost and the shipping charges for each item.

Not only is ordering from the Huguenot Society easy, it is also a way of supporting the Society. The profit from the books and gifts helps a whole lot with the financial aspect of day-to-day operations. Surprise someone and help the Society at the same time by ordering from the book and gift lists!

Huguenot Society of South Carolina  
138 Logan Street  
Charleston, South Carolina 29401-1941

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CHARLESTON, SC  
PERMIT NO. 1140