



The Virginia Huguenot Society

An organization of descendants of French Protestants who, due to religious persecution, fled France.

frenchhuguenots-virginiasociety.org

Spring 2019 Newsletter

Attack on the Huguenots

Recently Del and Nancy Agee and Gerry and Bette Runyan visited the Richmond Conservation Studio to view the status of the conservation of this painting. At our October meeting the VHS approved the financing of the conservation of this noted work. When completed the art will reside in the Preston Library at VMI.

Liz Fulton, the Conservator charged with our project, greeted the group. She is most energetic and pleasant to work with and extremely knowledgeable and experienced in this type of work. She explained each step of the process to us and cleaned a small spot so we could see how the work is carried out. It is tedious work, using a swab dipped in cleaning fluid and working on the project one square inch at a time, often many treatments over the

same areas need to be done in order to complete the work.



The painting on the work stand in the studio



Detail of lower left hand corner after one treatment

The sections of the painting that have been worked on show a striking difference in color, brightness, and luminosity.

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While the Society has set aside funds to cover the project, we are asking members to make donations to the Society earmarked for this project. PLEASE NOTE: If you have an IRA you can make a donation directly from the account to our Society. It will count towards your Minimum Required Distribution for the year AND you will not be taxed on the amount of the gift.

Please consider this route as a smart way to support the Society and the project. You will need our TIN 64-0964544.

(The VHS cannot give tax advice; please consult your personal tax advisor.)

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We were very pleased with the improvement shown so far and much work still needs to be done. Gerry and Bette saw the painting before the work started



Liz demonstrating the technique of cleansing & the results

and you can now see figures and items - such as the soldier wielding a musket - that had not been visible before. All are excited to see the finished product.



Detail of lower right side showing the difference in color and brightness of the woman's collar, treated area vs untreated, white vs dull beige.

Tell Us Something About Yourself. . .

President, Dr. Augustine W. Lewis, III

Dr. Augustine Warner Lewis, III is the fourth generation of his family to serve as a physician in the Middle Peninsula of the state. His Huguenot ancestor is Parson Lewis Latané (1672-1732), who emigrated to Essex County by way of England where he was ordained as an Anglican priest in 1700. Parson Latané served for years in the South Farnham parish where Dr. Lewis attends church today. Parson Latané's home is just a few miles from where Dr. Lewis currently resides in King and Queen County. Dr. William Latané, the subject for William Washington's well known painting of "The Burial of Latané," is one of Lewis Latané's descendants.

After retiring from his medical practice in the town of Aylett where he, his father and his grandfather practiced for a total of 88 years, Dr. Lewis became a part time faculty member at the St. Francis Family Medicine Residency program in Chesterfield County and at the School of

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Medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University. He has received teaching awards from the School of Medicine and the Virginia Academy of Family Physicians. The Medical Society of Virginia Foundation recognized him for Service to the Profession and the Academy of Family Physicians awarded him its Service Award for mission work. The medical school Foundation presented him the Caravati Award for Service to the School in 2014.

Dr. Lewis lives in the home purchased by his grandfather in 1912. He restored the home which had been without residents from 1962 to 1974. "Norwood" is in the Bruington Historic District and was built by Samuel Ryland, brother to one of the founders of the University of Richmond.

Dr. Lewis shares an interest with his wife, Elizabeth Christeller, in textile work and is a weaver. They raised sheep for years, only deciding to sell them when they stockpiled so much wool that they could not spin it all in decades. Currently they are down to one goat, one horse, one pony, three dogs and three cats on their farm. For years Dr. Lewis raised goats for milk and cheese. Music is another major interest. Dr. Lewis played cello

in a community orchestra for years and is in the community chorus now.

Dr. Lewis is currently attending classes on the undergraduate campus of Virginia Commonwealth University, pursuing a degree in French, the native language of his Huguenot ancestor.

Newest Member, Elizabeth Vance

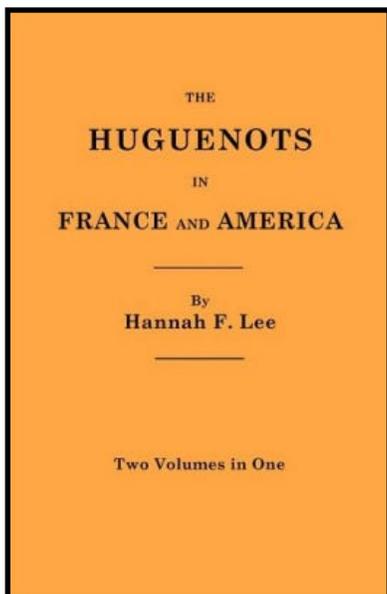
Elizabeth Vance joins the Virginia Huguenot Society by way of her ancestry to Pierre Baudouin. Elizabeth resides in Midlothian, Virginia, with her husband Chris. In addition to VHS, she is also a member of the National Society of Colonial Dames of Virginia where she is a Member-at-Large, Registrar for the Richmond Town and County and also docent at the Wilton House Museum in Richmond. Elizabeth is also a member of The Daughters of the American Revolution, Commonwealth chapter. In her spare time, Elizabeth is a member of the Tuckahoe Woman's Club, The Woman's Club of Richmond and The Salisbury Woman's Club. On Sunday the Vances go to Salisbury Presbyterian Church. Elizabeth is the mother of three children and three beautiful grandchildren.

INSIGNIA OF THE SOCIETY



The Huguenot Cross has eight points which stand for the Beatitudes from the Book of Matthew in the New Testament. Between each arm of the cross is a fleur-de-lis or lily, representing purity. Suspended from the bottom is a dove signifying the Holy Spirit. The Huguenot Cross was designed and first manufactured in 1688.

News From our Librarian—David LeGrande



The Huguenots in France and America by Hannah F. Lee, Two volumes in one, original print 1843, both volumes 640 pages. This book is a highly informative collection of facts of the plight of the Huguenots wishing only to worship Christ. In the preface of Hanna Lee's book, she writes a very early conversion from Catholicism to Christianity. Beginning in A.D. 274 when Constantine fought under the "Flaming Cross" and banished Catholic bishops. The first chapter begins in 1524 with King Francis the First, and spans the rein of thirteen kings or monarchs detailing the centuries of miserable and unspeakable treatment of the French Huguenots. Commencing with The Charter of Louis the Eighteenth on June 4, 1814 granting religious freedom to all religions. Some of the important details are the National Synod of 1559, St. Bartholomew's massacre 1572, Edict of Nantes 1599, the Revocation of the Edict in 1685 and the commencement of the French Revolution, 1789 to 1799. There are only a few details of Huguenots in America.

A very good follow up book to read is: History of the Huguenot Emigration To America by Charles W. Baird, D.D. Original print 1885, two volumes in one, 405 pages.

Virginia Huguenot Society Books

1. Huguenot Genealogies by Arthur Louis Finnell, 1st Edition 1999, 72 pages. Reprint 2003. A list of all published genealogies for documented Huguenot families in America.
2. Huguenot and Scots Links 1575-1775 by David Dobson 1st Edition 2005, 92 pages. Listing of French Huguenots surnames, living in Scotland, some of which have become Scotticized and may vary from the original name.
3. Memorials of the Huguenots in America with Special Reference to their Emigration to Pennsylvania by Rev. A. Stapleton, A.M. M. S., 1st Edition 1901, Reprint 1996, 148 pages. This book dwells upon the Huguenot emigrants that had been stripped of all human rights, both civil and religious by the Revocation. In the industrial arts, learning and religious thought, the Huguenots were the most advanced type of civilization in proportion to emigrate to Pennsylvania.
4. Huguenot Emigration to Virginia and to the Settlement at Manikin-Town by R.A. Brock, 1st Edition, 1886, Reprint 2007, 204 pages. A comprehensive narrative of the establishment of the fugitive Protestants in the New World and data related to the Huguenot settlement in Virginia.
5. French Colonists and Exiles in the United States by J. G. Rosengarden, 1st Edition, 1907, Reprint 2002, 210 pages. This book brings to the attention of colonies settled with more or less success in the closing years of the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries.
6. The Huguenots in France and America by Hannah F. Lee, Two Volumes in One, 1st Edition 1843, Reprint 2001, 298 pages. The author consulted with many historians and biographers to compile

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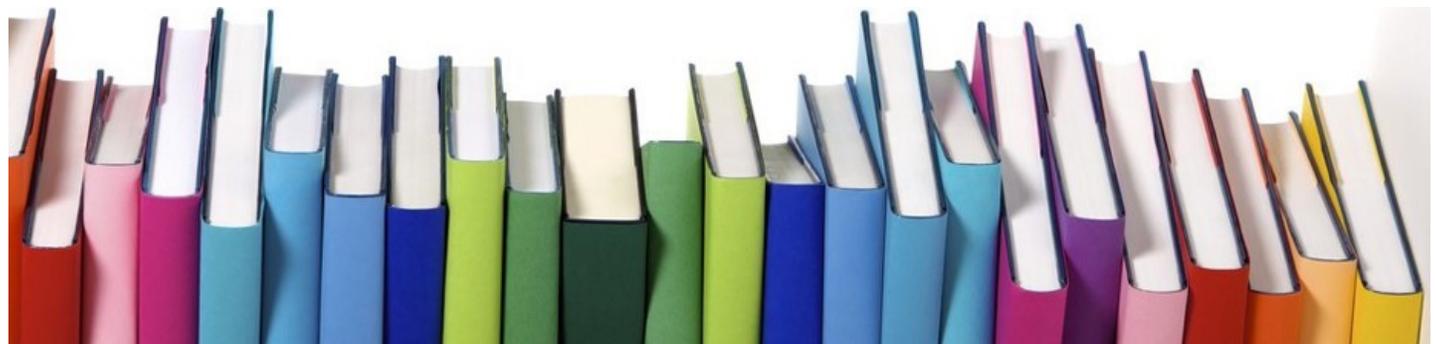
facts of Huguenot history in France and America. It is knowledge of men, not things we want. The facts collected concerning Huguenots who took refuge in America.

7. The Huguenots of Colonial South Carolina by Arthur Henery Hirsch, Ph.D., 1st Edition 1928, Reprint 2001, 329 pages. This book is a study of colonial history and contributions made in Carolina by the French Protestants.
8. Huguenot Emigration to America by Charles W. Baird, Hard Cover, Two Volumes in One, 1st Edition 1885, Reprint 1991. The author's narration of the coming of the persecuted Protestants of France to the New World and their establishment in the seaboard provinces of the New World.
9. The Huguenots, Their Settlements, Churches, and Industries in England and Ireland by Samuel Smiles, 1st Edition 1868, Reprint 2003, 422 pages. This book describes the industrial skill and spirit of liberty the French Huguenots brought to the English and Irish nations.
10. Memoirs of a Huguenots by Rev. James Fontaine and Ann Maury, 1st Edition 1853, Reprint 2002, 519 pages. An authentic narrative of actual occurrences and is drawn entirely from family manuscripts.

Additional Books Available (owned by E. David LeGrande)

11. The Diligence and the Disappearance of Manakintowne's Huguenots by Allison Neher Elterich, Hardcover, 1st Edition 1999, 103 pages. This book is the story of Manakintowne's settlers. It came to reality through the support of Rev. Wilbur Sims and his wife's research from their family descended from Abraham and Suzanne Sublette of Sedan, Lorraine Province, France.
12. Tracing Your Huguenot Ancestor's by Kathy Chater, 1st Edition 2012. Published in Great Britain, 123 pages. A guide for Huguenot Family historians.
13. Turff and Twigg, Volume One, by Priscilla Harris Cabell, 1st Edition 1988, 2nd Edition, 2006, 428 pages. This is a detailed study of the French Lands (King William Parish) near Richmond, VA. It is a tribute to the courage of the Huguenot families who clung to their belief in the right to worship freely.

Would you like to borrow a book? Contact David at edlegrande@hotmail.com



Fellow Huguenots in the Spotlight

Cheryl Bradford Billingsley, DDS was elected to a Trustee position for the Pierre Fauchard Academy International, an honorary dental organization, for a three-year term. Dr. Billingsley will be one of five Trustees in the US representing Southeast United States including Jamaica and Puerto Rico. This year she will travel to Germany for the International Meeting. Next year's international meeting will be in Nairobi, Kenya. Dentists from across the globe will meet annually. 1728 Pierre Fauchard, from Brittany, France, who was widely acknowledged as the "Father of Modern Dentistry" published "LeChirurgien Dentiste" (Lee Shee Roo Gee-Au- Don Teets) which contained detailed information about all aspects of contemporary dentistry. It was his lead that encouraged others; for example, before the end of the century in England the distinguished surgeon, John Hunter, had published his book entitled "The Natural History of the Human Teeth", and the first course of dental lectures was established at Guy's Hospital in London.



Lida Overton celebrated her 100th birthday on February 24, 2019, with family and friends at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Estelle "Susie" and Thomas Jones, of Cypress Creek, Smithfield, VA. The celebration was hosted by her children and their spouses, Joe and Joann Overton, Guntersville, AL, Ellen and Ronald Weiss, Newport News, and Susie and Tom Jones, Smithfield. Congratulations, Lida!



Virginia Huguenot Society

The following officers were elected at the March meeting.
Please give them your support in the coming term.

Officers:

President - Augustine W. Lewis III, MD
Vice President - Louis T. March
Secretary - Nancy M. W. Agee
Treasurer - Ann B. H. Darst
Chaplain - Emily "Heath" Thompson
Registrar - Constance Paradiso
Historian - Edward David LeGrand
Immediate Past president - Del Agee

Council Members:

Susan Tatum
Paul Morrisette
Susanne Reynolds
Anne Skidmore
Brenda Graves
Gerald Runyan

* Council members elected in 2019 will serve a one year term; beginning with the 2020 election council members will serve a two year term.

Huguenots: Where Did They Go

By Delbert T. Agee

We often tend to think that Huguenots fleeing oppression all came to the New World, but many immigrated to other parts of the world. Wherever they were welcomed, they were industrious and contributed greatly in their adopted home.

Here we will address those French Huguenots who migrated to South Africa. As we know large scaled Huguenot flight began after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. Those who fled to Cape of South Africa were only a small portion of the number escaping. Most arrived there in 1688 to 1699 with a few more coming until 1707.

These Huguenots were sponsored by the Dutch East India Company that felt since they held similar religious beliefs, and were

highly skilled craftsman or farmers, they would be good fit for the Dutch Colony. The result was that though they were few in number their contributions were great.

One of the greatest successes was the improvement the brought to the quality of Cape wines. Many of the wine estates have French names today. As with Huguenots in other parts of the world their descendants soon merged with the society of their chosen land. They no longer spoke French, but Afrikaner.

The legacy is that of the 36 most common surnames of the white population of the Republic of South Africa, nine are of Huguenot origin. Today Huguenot descendants are active participants in every facet of South African Life.



The Huguenot Memorial at the Huguenot Museum in the Republic of South Africa.



Virginia Huguenot Society Website: Great Place for Information!

Please visit our web site regularly so that we can try to build up hits and move up higher on the rankings of the search engine. We also post pictures of Society events and happenings of individual members - don't be shy about sending any pictures to Gerald Runyan for posting to our site, gerald@aercorp.com. Visit frenchhuguenots-virginiasociety.org



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Registrar Constance Brooks Paradiso
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And behold, Jesus met them
and greeted them. And they
came up and took hold of His
feet and worshiped Him. Then
Jesus said to them, "Do not be
afraid; go and take word to My
brethren to leave for Galilee,
and there they will see Me.

Matthew 28:9,10

Happy Easter

A close-up photograph of a single white lily flower in full bloom. The petals are white with prominent dark brown or black spots near the center. The flower is set against a soft, golden-brown background. The stem and some green leaves are visible in the background.