



# DuBois

## Family

## News

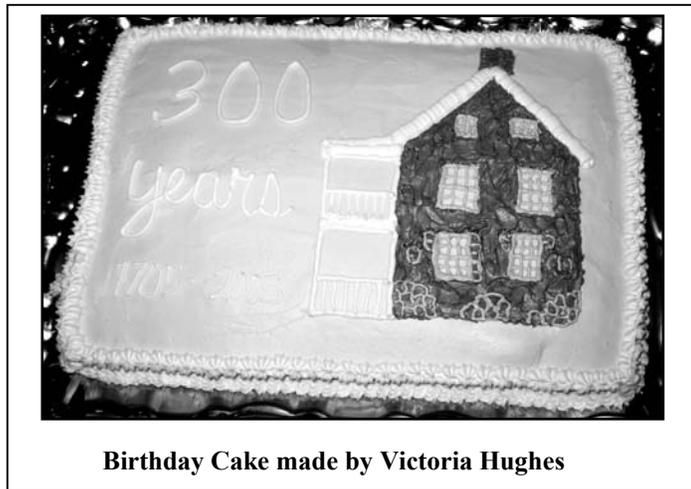
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### 300TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION WAS "PURE JOY"

Our 300th birthday celebration of the Old DuBois Fort was pure joy in more ways than one! Of course we all had a wonderful time visiting with other family members and seeing the new exhibit in the fort.

We also enjoyed the pure joy of sharing a birthday cake so generously made by Victoria Hughes, HHS Curator of Education. She frosted the cake to match the color of the freshly painted fort and it was especially delicious as we shared a piece of our history at the end of the Colonial Dance on Saturday night. Oh yes, the color of the cake and fort? "Pure Joy Yellow", of course!



Birthday Cake made by Victoria Hughes

### 2005 DUBOIS REUNION WAS FILLED WITH EVENTS

If you did not come to our 2005 family reunion to help us celebrate the 300th birthday of the Old DuBois Fort, then you really missed a treat.

We began the weekend with a Friday night social followed by a time capsule ceremony in

honor of Francis DuBois, a long time benefactor who recently passed away.

Saturday was filled with events, beginning with our traditional church service where we recognized those from our midst who have passed on.

We followed that with our reunion picture and then several activities such as touring the new upstairs exhibit and touring the HHS archives.

Next was our lunch and business meeting where we honored Catherine Smith's many years of dedicated service. We also elected new officers and gave Essay contest awards.

Finally, we ended the evening with our first ever Colonial Dance. Well, maybe not first ever! They might have had one 300 years



DBFA 2005 Reunion Picture

#### What's Inside?

- Message from our new president
- Pictures and stories from Friday evening
- Pictures and stories from Saturday morning
- Essays and pictures from the two contest winners
- Pictures of our Colonial Dance
- 60th anniversary of Adrienne and David Wiese



## DuBois Family Association

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## FROM THE (NEW!) PRESIDENT'S DESK

BY TERRY L. DUBOIS, DBFA PRESIDENT



DBFA Family members,

Let me start off by thanking Dina DuBois, our former president, for the six years she served as our president. We were able to accomplish many things under her leadership. Dina has done such a great job overseeing the work on the Fort, I have asked her to stay on as Vice President of building and grounds. Dina stayed on top of things and the badly needed repairs to the Fort are getting done and use of the upstairs rooms is a reality thanks to the financial contributions from Marie Mathews.

At Reunion time the New Paltz area had seen 8 days of rain. Nearly 20 inches of rain swelled the rivers and flooded the streets. Friday night nearly 40 people braved the rain to attend the cheese and wine get together followed by the touching memorial service for Fran DuBois, a former DBFA long time president, who gave generous financial support to the DBFA. We also had a very nice ceremony to fill the archive notebook, which will remain in HHS care to be opened in 50 years by Essay winners, Miss Mariah Dawson and Miss Elizabeth Edelman both age 10. The two young ladies were also given Life memberships and made officers with the title of "Les Gardiens du Passe", or "the guardians of the past."

Saturday was a full day. We started with a church service in the French Church; we had a memorial flower ceremony as names of members who have passed away were read. Ms. Michele Elone then recited the Lords Prayer in French. Rev. Howard Major III, from the Reformed Church and HHS archivist Eric Roth conducted the church service. Eric was amazing with a beautifully done Hymn sung in Dutch. Next it was off to the Fort for the reunion picture followed by three simultaneous activities. There was a tour of the new

upstairs exhibit in the Fort, Eric Roth conducted a tour of the HHS Archives in the basement of the French church while Dina DuBois once again held the popular "Quest for the Crest" with the prize being a beautiful color print of our Family Crest. Then it was on to Deyo Hall and lunch.

The casual buffet lunch was dedicated to longtime DBFA genealogist, Catherine Smith, who will be retiring after many years of dedicated service. Catherine has been our secretary, treasurer and just about every other office. As well as a good friend, who has been an amazing wealth of information and help over the years. Thank you Catherine!!

After lunch was the business meeting and the election of officers. The meeting was very well attended. Welcome aboard to Fred DuBois who was elected to the Executive Board as a Vice President. Fred will be handling membership when Mike Benson takes over the genealogist position.

Linda Pate, HHS, curator of historic properties, gave a talk about work being done and possible upcoming changes. She also reported that even with all the rain in the area, the basement of the Fort was Dry. After the meeting there was time for house tours and other free time activities.

At 4:00, in the FAC, Edmund DuBois, family member and author held a book signing for his book. "In The Name Of The Church".

The reunion weekend was capped off with something new. We held our first Colonial Country Dance from 7PM to 9PM in Deyo Hall. We had an attendance of about 40, most in Colonial Era costumes, Contra dancing to the music and instructions of Eric Hollman and his band.

I would like to thank all who attended the reunion and everyone who helped us give our members a really great fun filled reunion. I Hope to see everyone next August when the reunion will be at the Colonial Street Festival.

Terry DuBois, DBFA President

# FRIDAY EVENING OPENS WITH TRADITIONAL SOCIAL HOUR

Our 2005 family reunion opened on Friday evening with the traditional wine and cheese social.

A large group of DBFA members braved the nasty weather to enjoy the warmth of renewed friendships and new acquaintances. Some members even brought their own family members to celebrate the special occasion.

There were several members who had never been in New Paltz and were eager to see the 300 year old Fort bearing the DuBois name.



**DBFA members mingle**

There was also a genealogy umbrella where members could place their own line, creating a DBFA family tree. Mike Benson set up a table with genealogy information to help the "tree builders."

## TIME CAPSULE DEDICATED

Electric candles gently lit the central room in the DuBois Fort Friday evening as a circle of DuBoises from near and far placed their entries into the library archive that will be opened in fifty years. The ceremony was dedicated to Francis DuBois, a long time DBFA member and benefactor who passed away this past Spring.

Ten year old Mariah Dawson, a twelfth generation DuBois, entered her essay and what it means to her to be a DuBois. She and Carol Edelman's granddaughter, Elizabeth Edelman, are the guardians of the past of this notebook time capsule. Dina DuBois explained, "As guardians of the past they will be alive in fifty years and will gather family together to witness the opening of the archive."

Some put in pictures of family, others wrote up their connection to the family, Carol Henkel included a newspaper article on her as harbor master in Darien Connecticut. Marie Matthews included a personal resume and samples of her photography. Pam Bailey, DBFA treasurer, and a student of women's studies included her distinguished resume.



**Dina DuBois explains the time capsule**

## AUTHENTIC FRENCH SERVICE

BY ERIC ROTH, HHS LIBRARIAN / ARCHIVIST

One of the highlights of our 2005 reunion was an historical church service performed by HHS Archivist Eric Roth and Rev. Howard Major III of the New Paltz Reformed Church.

The service included prayers read in French, a hymn sung in Dutch, and a brief but entertaining lecture about church life during the eighteenth century. We learned how the church served multiple roles in the fledgling community. Not only did it bring people together to worship, but also provided an important meeting place for social gatherings and also probably functioned as a school. Church officials such as ministers, elders, deacons, voorlezers and voorsangers (lay readers and psalm leaders), and schoolmasters were all invariably important leaders whose views were well respected in the community. New World ministers tended well educated and admired, but constantly complained of the low salaries and the lack of zeal among their parishioners. New Paltz in particular faced additional difficulties recruiting ministers due to its remote location from other French communities and eventually turned to Dutch and even German ministers for spiritual leadership.



**DuBois Service at the French Church**

We also learned about a bitter dispute that divided Dutch Reformed congregations throughout the Hudson Valley and New Jersey during the eighteenth century. This conflict

arose amidst the shortage of ministers and pitted theological conservatives bearing allegiance to Europe (the Conferentie) against those arguing for more self-governance (the Coetus). This dispute flared up in Ulster County in the 1730s when several churches, including New Paltz, gave their support to Reverend Johannes Van Driessen against the wishes of the Kingston church. The central issue revolved around the fact that Van Driessen had been ordained not by the Classis of Amsterdam, as was mandated, but by unsanctioned church officials in New Haven, Connecticut.

In the confrontation, the some members of the DuBois family were among the most vocal proponents of the traditional Dutch position in the Coetus-Conferentie dispute. At New Paltz, supporters of the Conferentie left the New Paltz church and established their own between New Paltz and Libertyville in 1766. The congregation, often referred to as the "Owl Church" in local histories, was short-lived, however, and disbanded in 1774.

## NEW EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT UNVEILED IN THE OLD DUBOIS FORT

BY VICTORIA HUGHES, HHS CURATOR OF EDUCATION



Victoria Hughes explains parts of the exhibit to DBFA members

A new exhibit exploring the history of the DuBois family, on the second floor of the DuBois Fort, was unveiled to DBFA members at the reunion. The exhibit, titled "Links to the Past: Discovering History with the DuBois Family", was designed and installed by students from the Cooperstown Graduate Program in History Museum Studies. Interactive components also ask visitors to consider their own family history.

The displays are located upstairs, allowing visitors to once again see the second floor of this historic building. You can check out the exhibit to share a family recipe or see a life-size cut out of Ira F. DuBois! This project was generously funded by the Mathews Family Foundation and supported by the DuBois Family Association.

## REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING HELD



DBFA members at the business meeting

We held the regular business meeting of the DuBois Family Association after the luncheon.

During the meeting we heard from Pam Bailey on the current financial condi-

tion of the association. We also elected new officers for two year terms. Terry L. DuBois was elected the new president of DBFA. Fred DuBois also joined the executive board as its newest member.

Lastly, we were treated to a review of DuBois Fort activities that have taken place over the past year by Linda Pate, HHS Curator of Historic Properties. Overall it was a very informative session.

Some of the many objects on display include:

- The grass hamper that (according to tradition) Louis DuBois brought with him from Europe. This represents the theme of moving.
- A walking stick with the handle in the shape of a cannon. This was presented to Benjamin F. DuBois in commemoration of his service. This represents the theme of family history and the military.
- A baby dress of Jenny Wheeler along with a photo of her in 1893 wearing the dress. This represents the theme of childhood and family collecting.
- Toys that belonged to Phyllis DuBois' father as a child. This also represents the theme of childhood.
- A display with the waffle iron and toaster in the fireplace. This represents the theme of connection between food and family traditions.

Please stop by and see the next exhibit the next time you visit Huguenot Street.

## CATHERINE SMITH RECOGNIZED

Catherine Smith was recognized for her long service as the genealogist to the DuBois Family Association with a beautiful plaque during our Saturday luncheon.

Despite not being a family member, she has served faithfully for many, many years. She will be retiring next June and is currently in the process of making a major genealogy revi-



Genealogist Catherine Smith

## EDMUND DUBOIS BOOK SIGNING



Edmund DuBois reads from his book

We were treated to a book reading and signing by our very own family member, Edmund DuBois, a retired Army Colonel.

His book, "In the Name of Church" chronicles a fictional family through some of France's early Huguenot turmoil. This historical fiction was an exciting read and very apropos to our DuBois family!

# “Les Gardiens du Passe” - Guardians of the Past



Mariah Dawson—age 10

Our first co-winner of the Essay contest is Miss Mariah Dawson.

Mariah Dawson is the granddaughter of Dina DuBois. She lives in Berkeley, California with her mother, Deborah Moore, and her father, Adam Dawson.

“I am a twelfth generation direct descendant of Louis DuBois. Being a DuBois is special to me because I think the DuBois were an important part of early American history. The DuBois were immigrants from Holland and France. When they came to America they settled right down and built a town, the town of New Paltz. I am very amazed at how lucky the DuBois were with their new life in America. It seems to me that as immigrants from a foreign country the DuBois prospered, were good farmers, and were able to build fine houses and the DuBois Fort.

I feel very fortunate as a DuBois because I have been able to visit New Paltz many times and see all of the old buildings. When I think of “the DuBois,” I think of bravery, kindness, hard work, and love. I think of those qualities because you have to have bravery to leave your country and come to a new land. Also to succeed in a new place you need to be able to work hard and have kindness towards the new people you meet.

To do anything, especially to go on a long journey away from your home, you need love.”

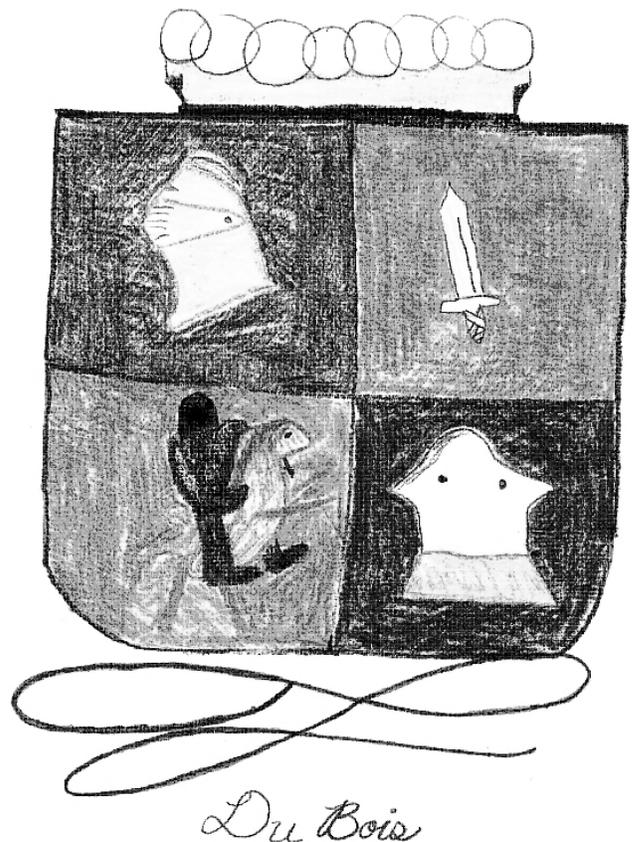


Elizabeth Edelman—age 11

Our second co-winner of the essay contest is Miss Elizabeth Carol Edelman.

Elizabeth is the granddaughter of Carol Edelman. She lives in Ruckersville, Virginia with her parents, Robert and Pamela Edelman. She attends Nathaniel Greene Elementary School.

“I would love to visit the “family fort”. It sounds interesting and I would like to learn more about my ancestors. Through my researching (so far) I have found many interesting facts. Such as... “There are three gun ports on the ground floor” and “in the twenties it became a tearoom.” I even spent time searching for the family crest and I have drawn it here to share. I would like to thank all of the people who have taken time to preserve things like the Dubois Fort and I would be excited to see it. I would like to find out more about the DuBois family through going to see the fort sometime soon.”



# COLONIAL CONTRA DANCE A BIG SUCCESS!

**“A contra dance is like an amusement park ride we make for ourselves.” (Unknown)**

Imagine yourself transported back to 1705 on a cool, rainy Saturday evening in New Paltz where everyone in this small town comes out to join their neighbors for a friendly Colonial dance. Most people just walk to the barn where the dance is held, but some have to travel a little further and their horses and wagons are tied up outside while the music floats through the darkness.

Now you have a mental picture of the enchanting evening that was held on the Saturday night of our reunion in Deyo Hall. Most of the DBFA members who attended the dance



**Eric Hollman and his band play music**

were dressed in period costumes. We learned the hard way how restricting some of their garments can be as we “do-si-doed” on the dance floor.

Eric Hollman and two other musicians pro-

vided the music for our Colonial dance but we all provided the fun and good cheer! Eric patiently instructed a willing audience in the finer points of Contra dancing. All of us were quick learner and were swinging our partners like we were experts.

Guitar, flute, fiddle, and accordion, among various other instruments, gave us a real sense of Colonial era music. Even though the sound system was powered by electricity, we chose to suspend our disbelief and ignore the obvious anachronism.

Eric explained the history and meaning of the Contra Dance where there are two facing lines with your partner across from you. Many of the movements are similar to square dancing and therefore quite easy to learn.

"Eric Hollman and his band were a big hit. It was really nice that everyone had a great time learning to Contra dance," said Terry DuBois, DBFA president. Terry was right there dancing along with many other DBFA members, some of whom were well advanced in years!

As people entered Deyo Hall, they were given tickets that were used to award door prizes later in the evening. Several items were awarded to lucky attendees, including DuBois

postcards and crests. The youngest attendee, Mariah Dawson, granddaughter of Dina DuBois, was chosen to draw the winning numbers.

While the band took a much deserved break, a light dinner was served.

Many needed to replenish their energy after the arduous contra dancing and the food and drink were just the ticket!



**Several DBFA members in a contra line**

The night ended with a birthday cake with the DuBois Fort as a part of the decoration. The frosting matched the color of the fort. Outgoing president Dina DuBois and incoming president Terry DuBois jointly shared the responsibility of cutting the cake.

As we left Deyo Hall after the evening of Colonial dancing, I could almost hear the whinny of the horses waiting with wagons to take their masters back to the warm fires of their homes.



**Dina and Fred cut the beautiful cake**

## ONLINE DBFA STORE OPENS

Terry DuBois, new DBFA president, has done a terrific job of putting together an online storefront to sell DBFA merchandise.

The Cafepress storefront sells all sorts of items with a picture of the DuBois Fort on them. You can buy T-Shirts, hats, calendars, mugs, tote bags, framed pictures, and even teddy bears. All items are very high quality and reasonably priced.

The best part, though, is that a portion of the proceeds goes directly to our DBFA treasury. So buy your Christmas presents and help out DBFA!

The site is located at <http://www.cafepress.com/dbfa>

## ADRIENNE AND DAVID WIESE CELEBRATE THEIR 60TH ANNIVERSARY!

Adrienne and David Wiese celebrated a milestone, their 60th wedding anniversary on June 2nd. Family celebration of this momentous event was a week-end at Williams Lake, a resort between New Paltz and Kingston.

Joining in celebration were their four children and spouses, and eight grandchildren, as well as Adrienne's brother and members of his family. Son George and family flew from Arizona, while brother George drove from Nebraska. Alice's family came from Virginia, North Carolina, and grandson David, a resident of Washington, D.C. came from Massachusetts, having



Wedding picture of Adrienne and David Wiese

hiked the Appalachian Trail, starting in Georgia. After the family gathering, he resumed his walk on the trail, finishing at Kathadin in Maine on Sept. 23nd.

All members of Jim's family came from Tennessee, and his in-laws from upstate New

York. Barbara's daughter Julie attends college in Wisconsin and she flew home to New Jersey and came with her family. Nephews were from Pennsylvania and Maryland. It was so good to see them all. Two friends living in Connecticut and New Jersey who were at the wedding also attended..

It was truly an outstanding weekend, one long to be remembered. So many memories of the past, memories of children as babies, toddlers, adolescents, and the adults all have become, their talents and ability to work together to achieve a common goal. The same is true of grandchildren, some of whom we have had more contact as they were growing up, and those yet to reach maturity. All are very dear to our hearts.

It was truly a cooperative effort getting everyone to and from the lovely setting at Williams Lake. We are thankful all found time in busy schedules to be with "family", sharing the unique bond of kinship. It was especially meaningful that grandson David interrupted his "thru-hike" of the Appala-

chian Trail, and his father added the extra mileage to and from Massachusetts for David to attend, this, after already driving up from southwestern Virginia.

It was such a joy to run into one or more of the family wherever we wandered. All were so very happy and shifted easily from one or more buddies to others. Ben and little Megan were enfolded in beautiful family relationship of "the cousins"

Williams Lake had something for everyone whatever the time of day, very family oriented.

Son Jim and son-in-law Russ planned Saturday evening's social hour and dinner when the family shared memories with long-time friends and relatives from eleven states and District of Columbia. Many contributed stories of family memories. So many family talents of which we were unaware were revealed.

Not to be forgotten was family origins in nearby New Paltz. Some family members found time to visit Historic Huguenot Street and the old stone houses where their ancestors first lived in New Paltz.

It was a memorable family celebration of 60 years of marriage and hard to believe so many years have gone by.. How swiftly they have flown!



60th Anniversary Celebration

## 2005 COLONIAL STREET FESTIVAL

The 2005 Colonial Street Festival, sponsored by the Huguenot Historical Society of New Paltz, was held on Saturday, August 13th. Several DBFA members were on hand to volunteer at the DuBois Fort to answer questions.

There was something for everyone at this year's CSF. Children were entertained with period games, craft activities, and puppets. Adults were mesmerized by an 18th century magician and an equilibrist. As always, there were demonstrations of period crafts such as coopering, tinsmithing, and quilting.

Adrienne Wiese has been the long time DBFA liaison to coordinate our involvement but she is stepping down after this year. We are very grateful for her many years of faithful service.

Thanks Adrienne!



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