



DuBois

Family

News

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“THE OLD FORT”: MORE THAN JUST A HOUSE

BY TERRY DUBOIS, VICE PRESIDENT OF ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS, DUBOIS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Our family homestead has reached a proud milestone. Built in 1705 by Daniel DuBois, “The Old Fort” is now 300 years old. Think of all she has witnessed. There have been weddings, births, deaths, courtships, the Revolutionary War, the founding of our great nation, 43 American presidents, new states, a civil war, two world wars, the Korean War, Vietnam, the Gulf Wars, untold numbers of tornados, even a fire, but proudly she still stands, a little worn but undaunted.

There is a little of each of us in the Fort. Somehow at sometime the Fort is tied to

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Happy 300th Anniversary DuBois Fort!

NEW EXHIBIT TO BE UNVEILED ON SECOND FLOOR

BY LESLIE LEFEVRE-STRATTON, CURATOR, HUGUENOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

As part of the celebration to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the construction of the 1705 DuBois Fort, the Huguenot Historical Society invited students from the Cooperstown Graduate Program (the museum studies program of the State University of New York at Oneonta) to create a special display that was



Cooperstown Students with New Display

installed on the second floor of the Fort.

Entitled, “Links to the Past: Discovering History with the DuBois Family”, this exhibit explores personal themes involving family and community, using selected objects with DuBois history and DuBois family archival materials.

The exhibit also explores the theme of collecting and preserving family materials. Through a series of interactive panels installed within the exhibit, museum visitors are encouraged to think about how they preserve their own family history and family things.

The introductory panel for the exhibit which is located on the wall of the second floor hallway reads in part:

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Reunion Schedule- At-A-Glance:

Friday

- 6:30 PM Social
- 7:30 PM Time Capsule

Saturday

- 9:00 AM Church Service
- 9:45 AM Family Picture
- 10:00 AM Group Activities
- 12:00 PM Lunch
- 1:00 PM Essay contest
- 1:30 PM Business Meeting
- 3:00 PM House Tours
- 4:00 PM Book Signing
- 7:00 PM Colonial Dance



DuBois Family Association

119 North Ohioville Rd.
New Paltz, New York 12561
Phone: 845-255-9050

Website: www.dbfa.org

DBFA Officers

President

Dina DuBois
PO Box 473
Corinth, VT 05039
president@dbfa.org

Vice President—Webmaster

Terry DuBois
3914 Chaucer Lane
Sarasota, FL 34241
webmaster@dbfa.org

Vice President—Treasurer

Pamela Bailey
13 Beech Hill Drive
Newark, DE 19711

Vice President—Secretary

Carol Edelman
108 Buck Drive
Ruckersville, VA 22986
dndedelman@firstva.com

Vice President—HHS Family Liaison

Adrienne Wiese
10 Kilmer Ave. Ext.
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Vice President—Newsletter Editor

S. Michael Benson
220 Plutarch Rd.
Highland, NY 12528
newsletter@dbfa.org

Genealogist

Catherine Smith
119 N. Ohioville Road
New Paltz, NY 12561
dbfa@juno.com
Genealogy inquires:
genealogy@dbfa.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

BY DINA DUBOIS, DBFA PRESIDENT



Dear friends,

This year 2005 is the 300th anniversary of the building of the DuBois Fort. At the bi-centenary of the Reunion of the Descendants of Louis and Jacques DuBois in August of 1875 Patterson DuBois of Philadelphia read from a poem "Our New Paltz" The prelude goes thus:

*The old mansion window, reviewing the scene
Made sacred in childhood to frolic and game,
Old memory asks if the long years between
Forbid that herself and the child be the same;
So I know of a balcony built neath the sky,
Whence I turn and look back on the broad earth
below;
And I wonder if this was my home, and if I
Am the life that it knew in the long years ago.*

Is he not celebrating the Fort?

William E. DuBois and Patterson DuBois also wrote for that occasion:

"What man, what brotherhood, starting out in life, can promise to themselves, two centuries after, a large assemblage of their own progeny, met to do honour to their memory? Alas, how easily we ignore the ancestor that we never saw, even no farther off than a grandfather? Or, how chilling and heartless would be a meeting of a dozen or a score-all that is left of that descent"

The mission of the DuBois Family Association carries on the two missions so eloquently expressed in 1875 to preserve and maintain the DuBois Fort and to maintain and update the Du-Bois family genealogy.

All the DuBois family officers are bringing family members to the 300th anniversary celebration of the building of the Fort in 1705. Let's see how many different lines can be represented in our

gathering.

Here are the lines of the officers.

Pam Bailey-Louis-Jacob-Garret-Tobias-Tobias-Christian-Tobias-Caroline-Jeanne

Mike Benson-Louis-Solomon-Isaac-Catharine-John-John-John-Charles-Mary

Dina DuBois-Louis-Isaac-Daniel-Simon-Isaac-Daniel-John W.-George W.-Jesse

Terry DuBois-Louis-Solomon-Hendricus-Mathusalem-Wilhelmus-William-Walker-William

Carol Edelman-Louis-Jacob-Louis-Benjamin-Tunis-Livingston-John-Robert

Adrienne Wiese-Louis-David-Catryntje-David-Margrietje-Benjamin-Hannah-Anna-George

Bring your families too. My daughter and granddaughter are coming from California. Let's see who will travel the farthest, who are the youngest, and the oldest. Make this your first visit, or make it a longed for return and meet your kissin' cousins.

Friday join the ceremony of filling the time capsule. Saturday interact with the new exhibit upstairs in the Fort, go on the Quest for the Crest, hear the essays celebrating the Fort, wander the wilderness of the sanctuary path, tour houses, ride bikes, AND join us for the contra dance Saturday night.

Come to the business meeting in the afternoon as we plan the transition from Catherine Smith's able and dedicated service as our paid staff genealogist to a new era in DBFA's future. We need your voices and votes. Elections of officers take place at this meeting.

All the officers are waiting to greet you on the Street, Huguenot Street.

Please read the newsletter carefully and send in your RSVP soon, and make your reservations early. If more of us stay at Williams Lake Resort, we'll have additional time to make connections.,

Warm regards and see you on the street,

Dina DuBois

COLONIAL DANCE SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY EVENING



Eric Hollman

This year the Annual reunion is very special. We are celebrating the 300th anniversary of the building of our beloved homestead, “The Old Fort”. The Grande Finale to the reunion will be the Colonial Country Dance in Deyo Hall from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Saturday October 15. We will be enter-

“THE OLD FORT”

(Continued from page 1)

each of us. We got married there, we ate there and we grew up there, some even died there. Look into your family history and someone at sometime did something at the Fort.

From the first time I saw the Fort in person in 1999, I have been drawn to her. Proudly standing there. The largest Stone House on Huguenot Street. Every time I look at her I find something new. Did Daniel envision the house being here 300 years later?

You don’t visit “The Old Fort” you experience “The Old Fort”. Then you fall in love with her. PLEASE, come experience the celebration with us. The 400th anniversary is 100 years away. Why wait?

tained and instructed in Contra Dancing by Mr. Eric Hollman and his band in authentic Colonial Era Dress, playing Colonial Era Music. If you are not familiar with Contra Dance, it is a dance similar to square dancing. You can participate even if you have never danced before.

We would like you to join in the fun and come in colonial dress. HHS has a few outfits available and has generously made them available for our use for the night. Also you can make your own outfit or purchase your costume from a

supplier like Jas. Townsend and Son. Their website address is www.jas-townsend.com (allow 5 weeks for delivery). You do not need to be in a complete outfit, a partial outfit is fine as is regular modern clothing. Comfortable dancing attire recommended. The HHS gift shop also has a few colonial hats for sale.

So come to the reunion and celebrate with us and join in all the fun. Remember, this is a once in a lifetime celebration. The next celebration will be in 2105. So get your reunion reservations in and be part of history.

DUBOIS FUTURE—TIME CAPSULE

What are you going to put in the time capsule?

In fifty years the library time capsule at the Huguenot Historical Society will be opened and available for the public and your own descendents. Please put in it something that represents who you are so that people will know what it was like in 2005. Please make it a paper document that is no bigger than 8 x 11.

What fun to think of what will represent you. Please send in things for you, your children, and grandchildren if you can’t come.

On the back, please glue on the following information:

- *Name*
- *DuBois line*
- *Date of birth*
- *Location of birth*
- *Date of marriage or civil union*
- *Spouse or partner’s name*
- *Children’s names*

The Time Capsule will be dedicated to the memory of the late Francis DuBois, who displayed a generous long term commitment to the DuBois Family Association.

CHURCH SERVICE AT FRENCH CHURCH



The French Church

Please join us for a reenactment of an early French service, complete with French psalms at 9:00 AM Saturday morning. Although there was no pastor at the church in 1705, we will have Howard Major serve as our pastor for the morning.

Come and see what an authentic church service was like at the time of the building of The Old Fort in 1705.

COMPLETE WEEKEND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The weekend festivities kickoff with a social gathering at the Family Association Center (FAC) at **6:30 PM** to enjoy renewing old family friendships as well as making new ones. As usual, wine and cheese (and more!) will be served. The FAC is located at 64 Huguenot Street.

At **7:30 PM** we will be having a special Time Capsule Ceremony in the DuBois Fort Fireplace room. This ceremony will be dedicated to the late Francis DuBois, a long time supporter of DBFA. Please plan on bringing items to contribute.

Our Saturday morning will begin as usual with a church service at the French Church on Huguenot St. at **9:00 AM**. This will immediately be followed by our Family reunion picture in front of the DuBois Fort at **9:45 AM** sharp.

At **10:00 AM**, three simultaneous events will occur. Each event takes about a half an hour and you can choose whichever best suits your interest. First, there will be tours of the new DuBois Fort exhibit on the second floor of the Fort. Second, there will be tours of the Huguenot Historical Library to see some of the DuBois archive documents and contribute to the time capsule if you were not able to join us on Friday evening. Librarian and Archivist, Eric Roth will assist us in understanding the cultural and historical significance of these artifacts. Lastly, we will be offering another "Quest for the Crest" that was so popular during last year's Colonial Street Festival. As last year, the prize will be a DuBois Family Crest suitable for framing.

Our appetites will be satisfied by a lunch at Deyo Hall at **12 noon**, dedicated to the many years of service provided by Catherine Smith, who will be retiring as our genealogist, membership person, treasurer, and probably just about any other service position in DBFA over the years. We are so thankful for her dedication and hard work. The lunch will be \$15 for adults and \$5 for chil-

NEW PALTZ AREA ACCOMODATIONS

The following hotels/motels are located in the New Paltz area. Please make your reservations soon as October 14th and 15th are during the peak season for Autumn leaf watching in the Northeast.

Holiday Inn Express, Poughkeepsie	845-473-1151
Mohonk Mountain House, New Paltz	845-256-2000
Super 8 Motel, Highland	845-691-6888
Best Inn, Poughkeepsie	845-454-1010
Courtyard by Marriott, Poughkeepsie	845-485-6336
Days Inn of New Paltz	845-883-7373
Econo Lodge of New Paltz	845-255-6200
87 Motel, New Paltz	845-255-9220
Williams Lake Lodge, Rosendale	845-658-3101
Super 8 Motel, Hyde Park	845-229-0088

You can also check online for the best prices at websites such as www.Travelocity.com and www.Orbitz.com.

dren. Speaking of children, we will also be reading some of the essays submitted to our contest during lunch. You won't want to miss this!

At **1:30 PM** we will move right into our Business Meeting. Please plan to stay as we have important business to vote on and we need your participation.

Then we have an opportunity to stretch our legs a bit as we are invited to tour the various houses on Huguenot Street from **3:00-5:00 PM**. Or maybe you would like to take a walk on Sanctuary Path which is located on 50 acres along the Wallkill River and through the wetlands. You can also rent bicycles and ride the 12 mile rail trail. Edmund DuBois, family member and author, will read from his historical novel "In the Name of Church" at the FAC at **4:00 PM**. Get your very own copy signed by the author!

Our reunion will be capped off with our first Colonial Contra Dance from **7:00-9:00 PM** at Deyo Hall. Eric Hollman and his band will be teaching us steps that many of our forefathers probably enjoyed during their harvest celebrations. A light supper will be served. There will also be a drawing for door prizes.

We have worked very hard to make this a fun and memorable weekend and are looking forward to seeing you there.

NEW EXHIBIT AT THE OLD FORT

(Continued from page 1)

"The Dubois family made history, but more importantly, they preserved and shared this history for their descendants through the objects they collected.... Family history is more than just names and dates. It is a narrative about conflict, tradition, and values that informs and shapes our lives today.... Discover how this [the DuBois] family preserved memories and learn how you can step back into the past to hear the voices of your own ancestors."

This exhibit has been funded in part by the DuBois Family Association.

ESSAY CONTEST FOR KIDS

As part of the 300th anniversary celebration, we are having an essay contest for the kids. The essays will be judged in two separate age groups. The subject of the essays will be *What "The Old Fort" and being a DuBois means to me.*

6-10 years: A drawing and a paragraph

11-15 years: 1 type written page or 2 handwritten pages

Entries must be received by October 6, 2005 to be eligible. Prizes will be awarded through the generosity of local merchants. Winning essays will be published in the next newsletter and on the DBFA website.