

DuVal Family News

Volume 1, Issue 2

June 1999 * Richmond Edition

Governor Declares DuVal Day in Va.

Virginia Governor James S. Gilmore declared Friday, June 4, 1999 DuVal Family Day in the state of Virginia in honor of Daniel DuVal and his descendants.

A certificate of recognition from the Office of the Governor was presented to DuVal Family Association Board members.

The certificate reads, "... the descendants of Daniel DuVal, a French Huguenot refugee, arrived on the York River in Gloucester County on March 5, 1701 seeking freedom from religious persecution; and

"Whereas, the descen-
(See DuVal Day Page 3)

Reunion in Richmond

The DuVal Family Association met for the first time since 1941 in Richmond, Va. June 3-6, 1999 with some 70 descendants and their families in attendance from 14 states.

The reunion was highlighted by a trip to Richmond's St. John's Episcopal Church, where family mem-

-bers, along with the descendants of Patrick Henry, saw a re-enactment of the patriot's famous "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" speech. Daniel DuVal's son Samuel was present during the original speech at this site in March 1775. Samuel DuVal was a delegate to the Second Continental
(See Reunion, page 7)



Descendants of Daniel and Philadelphia DuVal June 6, 1999 at Claye Bank, Va. on the York River, the site of Daniel DuVal's arrival almost 300 years ago.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Summer Reading	2
Richmond Roll Call	3
Photo Album	4
Photo Album	5
St. John's Church	6
Bulletin Board	7
Editor's Note	8

"Going Home" to Gloucester

Claye Bank, Va. - On June 6, 1999 - almost three centuries after the French Huguenot refuge Daniel DuVal landed here in March of 1701 - some 70 of his descendants and their families made a pilgrimage to this site on the York River.

The group was comprised of several generations with an age span of one to 93 years. Family members toured colonial Ware Parish Episcopal Church, where Daniel DuVal and his family worshipped, and Abington Parish Episcopal

(See Gloucester, Page 7)

Recommended Summer Reading

Louise Moillon, Seventeenth Century Still-life Artist, An Illustrated Biography

**By Helen Chastain Sowa
Chateau Publishing, Inc., Chicago**

Reviewed by Richard L. Goodbar

This book on Louise Moillon is a labor of love. Helen Chastain Sowa's fine volume benefits art devotees and gives us as Huguenots additional reasons to be proud of our ancestry and heritage. Mrs. Sowa's biography of Louise Moillon brings long overdue attention to a major artist, who achieved remarkable fame during the 17th century when accomplished women artists were a rarity.

Mrs. Sowa has literally combed the holdings of museums in Amer-

ica and Europe in order to locate paintings by Mme. Moillon, discovering them in leading museums of the U.S., France, Sweden, Germany, Spain and England. During the artist's lifetime, King Louis XIII of France and Charles I of England owned Mme. Moillon's paintings. Today, Queen Elizabeth II of England has been reported to have four in her collection. Christie's of London sold one of her paintings in 1991 for two-hundred and fifty thousand pounds (\$415,000).

The book traces Louise's life from the time she was born into a family of artists in 1610. Even as a young girl, Louise showed remarkable ability to draw and paint. Her father, a well known artist of landscapes, still lifes, and portraits, gave Louise her first lessons. He died when she was ten. Her mother remarried and again it



was to an artist, who became Louise's second teacher. She sold her first painting when she was 19.

The book's value is considerably enhanced by 13 outstanding full-colored reproductions of her paintings and one in black and white.

Mrs. Sowa, a native of Kentucky, attended Indiana University and Dominican University in River Forest, Ill. She is a patron of the arts and long-time member of The Art Institute of Chicago.

These reviews were obtained from the National Huguenot Society, and are reprinted with permission.

French Huguenots: From Mediterranean Catholics to White Anglo-Saxon Protestants

**By Abraham D. Lavender
Peter Lang Publishing, New York**

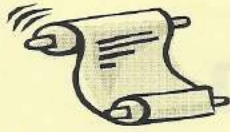
Reviewed By Patricia H. French

The interaction of sociology, history, and genealogy is the focus of Dr. Lavender's opening, as he skillfully interweaves historical information with genealogical and sociological data. His correlation of names and geographical data is novel and informative. Concisely reciting historical facts, he follows Christian history from the 10th cen-

tury and Huguenot history from the 16th; and he integrates all of this information in a most readable fashion. His chapter notes, appendixes, and extensive bibliography are helpful to laymen and historians alike. This reader wishes that he had explored more thoroughly the unusual wishes that he had explored more thoroughly the unusual spiritual motivation that caused the Huguenots to leave comfortable hearths and court danger and hunger on unknown shores. However, Lavender does depict the revival of this spirit during the World War II, when a small group of Protestants in a

small village in southern France shielded thousands of Jewish children during the Nazi occupation.

Numerous authors have written on this religious group, of course, Jon Butler's work shows that there were a relatively small number of Huguenots in the 1685 Diaspora after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Samuel Smiles's study proposes that the best of France left with the Huguenots and that, with the French Revolution 100 years later, the nobility followed in their footsteps. Tessa Murdock's analysis suggest a change of English char
(See Lavender, Page 3)



Roll Call From Richmond

The DuVal Family Association in formal session Friday, June 4, 1999 approved several business measures, including an increase in membership fees.

The fees were increased across the board to \$10 for all memberships. In addition, new members must pay a one time registration fee of \$10. Dues will include the cost of a quarterly newsletter.

The membership also adopted by-laws and approved a measure that gives the DFA 501C3 status and incorporation. This allow members to make tax-free contributions, but does not mean that the association is a non-profit organization. As several projects are under discussion – such as a historical marker at the Clay Bank landing site of Daniel DuVal – it is important that the DFA be able to accept donations of all sizes, board members stressed. Donations of all sizes are encouraged.

The DFA also elected its officers who will serve two-year terms on the Board of Directors.

The DFA Board of Directors includes: President, Judy Hamby, Lenoir, NC; Vice President, Roger DuVal Baskette Sr., Nashville, TN; Secretary, Regina Reedus Thompson, Sherman, TX; Treasurer/Register, Patricia Koenig, Littleton, CO; Historian, Cyrus F. Rilee, Albuquerque, NM; Genealogist, Joseph S. Hayes, Smith's Grove, KY; and Board member-at-large, Sarah McKelly King, Mufreesboro, TN; Board member-at-large, Katherine Lewis, Richmond, VA.

Katherine Lewis received special recognition for organizing the reunion.

In attendance at this - the first meeting of the DFA since 1941 - were 149 active members including eight William DuVal descendants; 57 Daniel DuVal descendants; 24 Benjamin DuVal descendants; and 60 Samuel descendants.

The next meeting of the DFA will be held the third weekend in June 2001 at the Omni Hotel in Richmond.



Board members, from back left, Katherine Lewis, Roger Baskette, Tom Dunscombe, Joseph Hayes, Regina Thompson. Front left, Pat Koenig, Judy Hamby, Cy Rilee.

DuVal Day

(Continued from page 1)

-dants of Daniel DuVal have provided leadership to the people of our great Commonwealth and nation for nearly 300 years serving as patriots, soldiers, statesmen, attorneys, architects, physicians, educators, business professionals and dedicated citizens from all walks of life; and

“Whereas, DuVal descendants continue to provide leadership in our Commonwealth including the Hon. Barry E. DuVal, Secretary of Commerce and Trade; and

“Whereas, the DuVal Family Association will hold its first meeting in over half a century on June 4-6, 1999 in our capital city to honor their common ancestry and to celebrate the accomplishments of DuVals

throughout Virginia and American history;

“ Now, therefore, I James S. Gilmore III do hereby recognize June 4, 1999 as DuVal Family Day in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.”

Lavender

(Continued from Page 3)

-acter and abilities as a result of Huguenot emigration. Charles Baird contends that they took with them “a love for liberty...associated with a tolerance learned in the school of suffering.” However, if a reader can have only one book in his or her library on the subject of Huguenots, Lavender's should be the one.

Family Photo Album



Left page, from top left: Tom Dunscombe and granddaughter Mary Beth Burgher of Houston, TX place flowers on the grave of Augustine Warner at Warner Hall Plantation; Molly Dunscombe O'Leary with sons Parker and 11-month old Davis following a tour of the White House of the Confederacy; Nathan Switzer and little brother Andrew couldn't resist a quick wade in the York River; Thomas Vernon DuVal, wife Martha June Hatter DuVal, daughter Sarah DuVal with son Hulen Pruitt and brother John DuVal at Ware Church.

Right page, from top left: Virginia Provence, the oldest descendant in attendance, with Richmond Chairman Katherine Lewis; Maura DuVal of Colorado Springs, CO, the youngest family member; Cy Rilee, Jim DuVal, Brownie DuVal, Kate and Bob DuVal enjoy the "Get to Know Your Cousins" reception; Ralph and Harriet Smith of Winston-Salem, NC. Below, left: Roger Baskette with sister Elizabeth Baskette, and wife Thetis Baskette, all of Nashville, TN enjoy the tour of Gloucester's churches; right, Margaret Lewis, Gene Duval, Bill DuVal and Debbie DuVal Blankenship.

Remembering Richmond



TO REMEMBER THE
MOMENTS AND
THE PEOPLE WHO
MADE THEM
SPECIAL
IS TO REMEMBER
THEIR NAMES
AND THE DATES
WHEN THEY
LIVED
AND DIED
AND THE PLACES
WHERE THEY
LIVED
AND THE PEOPLE
WHO MADE THEM
SPECIAL
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Bulletin Board

PORTRAITS – If you would like to order an official family portrait taken at Claye Bank, contact Click Photography in Gloucester, Va. At (804) 693-4190. Mastercard and Visa accepted. A video of the reunion is also in the works but further information was not available at printing time. Please consult your next newsletter for details or contact Gina Thompson at email: ginathompson@airmail.net or the address given below.

SCRAPBOOK – Gina Thompson will be putting together a scrapbook with pictures and memorabilia of the family union. If you would like to submit either, please send to Gina Thompson, 133 Golden Road, Sherman, TX.

If you send photographs, please be sure to send copies as they will not be returned. Photos should include people > Also, please include their names and the location where the photograph was taken.

DUVAL MATERIAL – The following DuVal related materials are now available from Henrico, County, Va.:
1) An 18 by 30 inch copy of Smith's 1853 map of Henrico County drawn from surveys by James Keily. It is reproduced on heavy stock paper and several dwellings are identified. The following DuVals are included: Dr. DuVal, M. DuVal, B. DuVal, two S. DuVals. The map is FREE.
2) "Inventory of Early Architecture, County of Henrico, VA" by Christopher M. Gregson. This publication is an edited version of two historical resource surveys made in 1975 and 1995. Each site has a photo, address, description,

and individual number that corresponds to a map insert.

The introduction traces Henrico County architecture, both private and commercial from the 1600s to present day. The cost is \$10, no tax, shipping or handling.

To obtain these books, contact: County of Henrico, VA, division of Recreation and Parks, Attn: Gwen Williams, P.O. Box 27032, Richmond, VA 23273. To order the "Inventory of Early Architecture" make check Payable to County of Henrico, VA.

NEWSLETTER – If you have a family photo and/ or anecdote that you would like to share with our readers, please email or write the editor's office and we will be sure to include it in a future issue. Please be sure to send copies of your photos, NOT the originals. Old family photos are too precious to risk losing and we want to retain copies for a newsletter photo file.



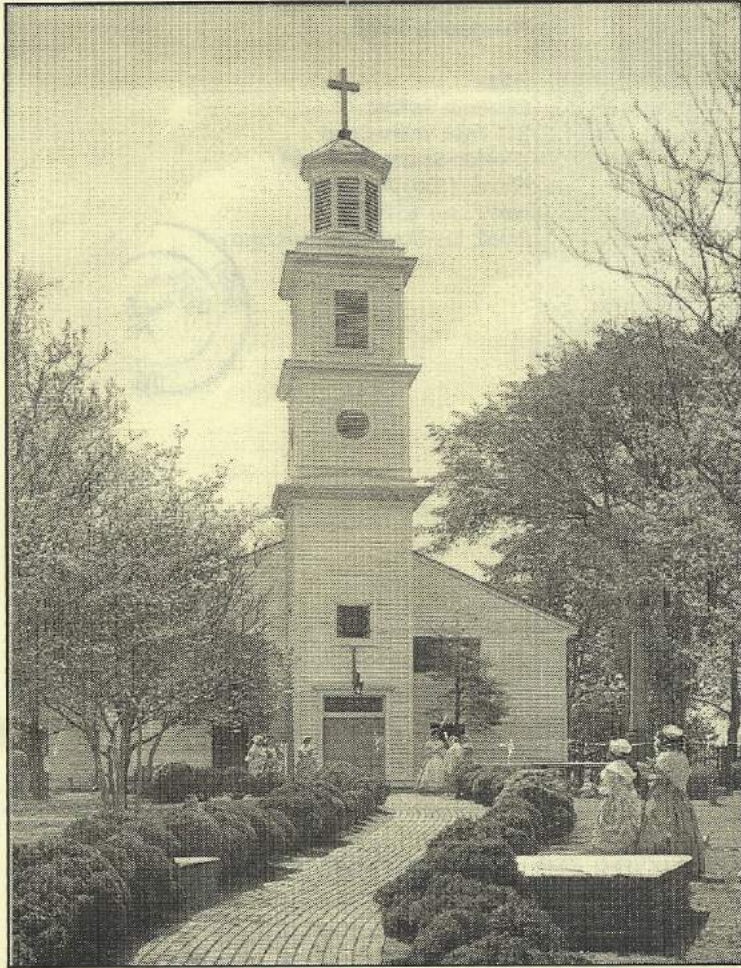
(Editor's Note, Continued from Page 8)

The DuVal Family Association is in its infancy and we have a group of incredibly talented and intelligent individuals assembled on our guiding board. Numerous projects are under discussion by the board, such as an updated book on the family history and a marker on Claye Bank to mark Daniel's landing here in 1701. Please support the efforts to make these projects a reality. Our next meeting will be in June 2001, three hundred years after Daniel's landing. It is our hope that we will be able to place a marker on this landing site at that time.

But there is a lot of work to be done towards reaching that – and other – goals. We are only as strong as our weakest link. If we don't do the work, who will?

We can celebrate our heritage and take pride in our Huguenot ancestry, but without the asset of our combined talents and efforts, we cannot move forward. Perhaps in 2001, with the placement of our historical marker, along with the realization of other projects, we can say that we have begun to re-connect broken links that span 300 years, and further.

So have we truly come full circle? It would seem that our DuVal Family Association's journey in time – as the descendents of the legacy of Daniel and Philadelphia – has only just begun.



St. John's Episcopal Church in Richmond, Va.

**(Reunion, Continued
from Page 1)**

Congress as a delegate representing Henrico County, Va. and is buried on the church grounds.

The reunion was headquartered at the Omni Hotel, where family members enjoyed a workshop conducted by DFA Genealogist Joseph S. Hayes; a hospitality suite hosted by Sunta Rosapepe and her family; and a luncheon featuring guest speaker, Mrs. Patsy Underhill, of Tappahannock, Va. representing the National Huguenot Society.

The next meeting of the DuVal Family Association will take place during the third weekend in June of 2001, the 300th anniversary of the arrival of Daniel and (it is presumed) Philadelphia DuVal in Virginia. The family hopes to place a historical marker at Clay Bank at that time.

(Gloucester, Continued from Page 1)

Church, the house of worship later attended by Daniel and Philadelphia DuVal's sons.

The family also visited the site of Petsworth Parish Church, which is no longer standing. This site is most likely the final resting place of Daniel and Philadelphia DuVal, according to DFA Historian and Gloucester native Cyrus Fleming Rilee, who organized and hosted the trip along with Genealogist Joseph S. Hayes.

Luncheon included a stop at Seawell's Ordinary, a historic inn and tavern frequented by George Washington and the General Marquis de Lafayette. Seawell's was owned during colonial days by ancestors of Mrs. Carolyn Rilee, wife of DFA's Cyrus Rilee.

A final stop included historic Warner Hall Plantation, home and grave of ancestor Col Augustine Warner, grandfather of George Washington. Robert E. Lee is also descended from the Warner Family.

An official family portrait was taken at Clay Bank. Copies are available from Click Photography of Gloucester at (804) 693.4190. Copies cost \$11 for an 8 x 10; Visa and Mastercard are accepted over the phone.



A newsletter for and about the descendants of Daniel and Philadelphia DuVal

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Editor's Note: Reflections on Richmond



As we, the descendents of Daniel and Philadelphia DuVal, stood here on the banks of the York River, where our ancestor landed, taking in the sweeping vista on this halcyon day in our family history, many of us were filled with a powerful sense of having come full circle. But have we?

Whether we, as DuVals, lived 300 years ago or are tenth generation descendents bearing different surnames, we all spring from the same source. We are all DuVals. I think we all felt privileged to be gathered on Clay Banke. I know I did. I can only speak for myself but being able to give my children a firmer grasp of who they are and where they come from in the uncertain world they will one day inherit is a reward that cannot be measured.

Its so easy to come to such a wonderful event as our Richmond reunion and take part in the glories of our heritage, such as having the governor declare June 7th DuVal Family Day in the state of Virginia. We all brought home special memories from our Richmond gathering, along with new friends and contacts. But I think the overwhelming theme that was brought to bear for many of us was a strong sense that this whole DuVal Family Association is not just about genealogy and the past; It delves deeper than that; its about *family, our family*. And with family, comes responsibility.

In the spirit of Daniel and Philadelphia, we can't just attend these events as takers. We must give back in return to our family. For the privilege of calling ourselves DuVals, we owe at least that much. Give what you can, whether it be money, a child's simple but thoughtful and graceful gesture of placing flowers on a grave or the organizational skills of all of those who made this wonderful reunion happen.

(Continued on page 6)