



# The Virginia Huguenot Society

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

[frenchhuguenots-virginiasociety.org](http://frenchhuguenots-virginiasociety.org)

Spring/Summer Newsletter



March 29 was another fine reunion of our Huguenot Family on a beautiful spring day. We welcomed three new members to our society; Anne Jackson, Patricia Haile and her sister, Madeline Townsend.

Also, Past President of the Huguenot Society of Manakin, Shirley Seaborn is also working on her papers to become a member. She and her husband joined us for our meeting.

Our speaker, Mr. Park Ravenel Dougherty of the Huguenot Society of South Carolina spoke on his book, *The Huguenization of the Anglicans*. He was brought to us by his cousin, a friend of our society and prospective member, Chardon Harrigan Jenks.

Park is a portfolio manager and leading citizen of Charleston, South Carolina. He has authored numerous articles on Huguenot heritage and founded the Charleston Charter School for

Math & Science. Before our meal, Park sang the Doxology set to a Huguenot Psalter tune. Many thanks to Park for his wonderful and educational presentation.

Our election of officers brought a new member to the board for the 2025-2027 term. Many thanks to those who serve and to those who are beginning their terms.

Thank you for your confidence in re-electing me as your President. I will do my very best to lead us and carry the torch.

Let us know if you would like to contribute to our book on U.S Presidents with Huguenot Lineage. This is our Society's Project and Gerry Runyan can assign you an ancestor to research in one of the lineages.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer with lots of frivolity and happy days! Join us again in October, possibly in Yorktown.

*Se réjouir!*

**Constance Paradiso**

President, Virginia Huguenot Society

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## Virginia Huguenot Society Fall Meeting March 29, 2025 Salisbury Country Club, Midlothian, VA



Virginia  
Huguenot  
Society

The spring meeting of the Virginia Huguenot Society was

held on March 29, 2025 at the Salisbury Country Club in Midlothian. Constance Paradiso, President, issued the call to order at 12:15. This was followed by an invocation from our speaker, Mr. Park Dougherty. The Ritual, con-

sisting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and the Huguenot Pledge to the Flag was recited, followed by Le Serment Solennel (The Sacred Oath) in French and repeated

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in English.

New member, Bob Nutt, of Staunton was welcomed. Guests were recognized: Our speaker, Mr. Park Ravenel Dougherty and his wife, Martha from Charleston, S.C., Patricia Rouzie Haile, Madeline Sue Rouzie Townsend, and Ann Jackson from the Middle Peninsula, who are applying for membership, Janelle Tattersall from Staunton, Char-don Jenks (relative of the speaker), Sarah Short, Eliza-



beth Johnson, Grenelle Delaney, Terrell and Elliot Harrigan of Charleston and Richmond who are relatives of the speaker and who are hosting him and his wife, Charlotte Wilcher, potential member and her friend, Patrick Duma. Also attending were Shirley and Tom Seaborn from the Manakin Huguenot Society. Louis March made a point of announc-

ing that our members are invited to that group's meeting and lunch on April 26. Mr.

Dougherty was asked to give a blessing for the meal and in true form for his message he sang the Doxology which is from the Genevan Psalter.

Lunch then followed. When all the courses had been cleared, Vice President Louis March introduced our speaker for the meeting. Mr. Park Ravenel Dougherty, who is a portfolio manager, has been very involved in Huguenot culture in South Carolina and has written articles about the subject of his talk which is "The Huguenization of the Anglicans."

He has been instrumental in starting a Charter School for Math and Science in Charleston and has engaged in many other civic enterprises. He began by describing



a new tradition that will take place at the Huguenot Church in Charleston. This will be a service in French, followed by a Fete des Huguenots, where there will be celebrations of the culture of Huguenot ancestors with artifacts on display. This will be followed by trips by bus to a number of commemorative crosses, which have been maintained by the Huguenot Society of South Carolina at places where Huguenot settlers wor-shipped.

The speaker gave a back-ground summary of how the Anglican Church began and through mon-archs who fol-lowed Henry VIII had the church hierar-chy imprinted in the churches es-



tablished in the colonies. The Huguenots who fled from per-secution in France brought with them to the New World Protestantism based on the doctrines of Jean Calvin. Mr. Doherty has pointed out that some historians have not been very kind about their assess-ment of how Huguenots in South Carolina became assim-ilated into the Anglican church. One in particular,

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Jon Butler, stated that the fact that within one generation,



the Huguenots became Anglicized had something to do with some social pathology, some shallowness of the culture or failure of clerical leadership. Our speaker's contention is that although the Anglican Church was deemed the official church of the state, there were many elements in its role and religious services that were influenced by the Huguenots. An example of this was the sung Psalter that had been promoted by Jean Calvin after he had heard

the singing during the Lutheran services in Strasbourg when he had been banned from preaching in Geneva. Mr.

Dougherty sang some wonderful examples of these. In the Church Act of 1706 the state of South Carolina was divided into parishes and the vestries in the churches for years were the local administrators shifting power from the church hierarchy.

This was another effect of Huguenot influence. So, according to our speaker, the Anglicans were and continue to be "Huguenized."



After his talk, Society member Col. Randolph Williams recounted an anecdote about visiting the Huguenot Church in Charleston and encouraged other members to make the trip to experience this sacred space.

Following this, the officer and committee reports were given. Augustine Lewis gave the minutes from the last meeting and there were no additions or corrections. Ann Darst gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance of \$17,732.73.



Gerald Runyan gave the nominating committee report. Nominated for

president was Constance Paradiso, for vice president, David Legrande, secretary, Augustine Lewis, Chaplain, Heath Thompson, treasurer, Ann Darst, registrar, Cat Southworth and librarian/historian, Gerald Runyan. There were no nominations from the floor and the membership voted to install all the nominees. Following a benediction given by Mr. Dougherty, President Constance Paradiso adjourned the meeting.

*Submitted by Gus Lewis*

**Save the Date!**  
**Our next meeting is October 25, 2025!**  
**(Place TBD)**

## Please welcome your VHS Officers & Council 2025-2027

### VHS officers

President—Constance Paradisio  
Vice President—David LeGrande  
Secretary—Gus Lewis  
Chaplain—Heath Thompson  
Treasurer—Ann Darst  
Registrar—Cat Southworth  
Librarian/Historian—Gerald Runyan

### Council members for 2024-2026

Paul Morrisette  
Joyce Collier  
Susan R. Perry

### Council members for 2025-2027

Randolph Williams  
Adrienne Maxwell  
Lois “Diann” Snyder

Immediate Past President - Louis T. March

Please thank these members for their service by volunteering to take on special tasks or working on a committee.

CONGRATULATIONS TO  
OUR NEWLY ELECTED  
OFFICERS

## Who was Nicholas Martiau?

**Nicholas Martiau** is a fascinating figure, especially known for being a French Huguenot ancestor of George Washington. Here are some bullet points about his life in France before fleeing to England.

### **Early Life in France:**

**Birthplace and Date:** Nicholas Martiau was born in **Île de Ré**, a small island off the west coast of France, in **1591**.

**Family and Upbringing:** Details about his parents and early family life are sparse, but it's believed he was raised in a well-educated Protestant household. His ability to read and write, along with his later career in engineering, suggest a decent level of education.

### **Reason for Leaving France:**

As a Huguenot, Martiau faced increasing religious persecution in France, especially under policies that restricted Protestants' rights. This pressure likely pushed him to leave for England, a more Protestant-friendly country at the time.

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Photo from "Find Grave"

### Migration to England:

He fled to **England**, likely in the early 1600s (sometime before 1619), and eventually became a **naturalized English citizen**.

He joined the **French Church in Threadneedle Street** in London, a center for Huguenot exiles.

He trained as a **military engineer**, a profession that would later play a key role in his life in Virginia.—from ChatGPT

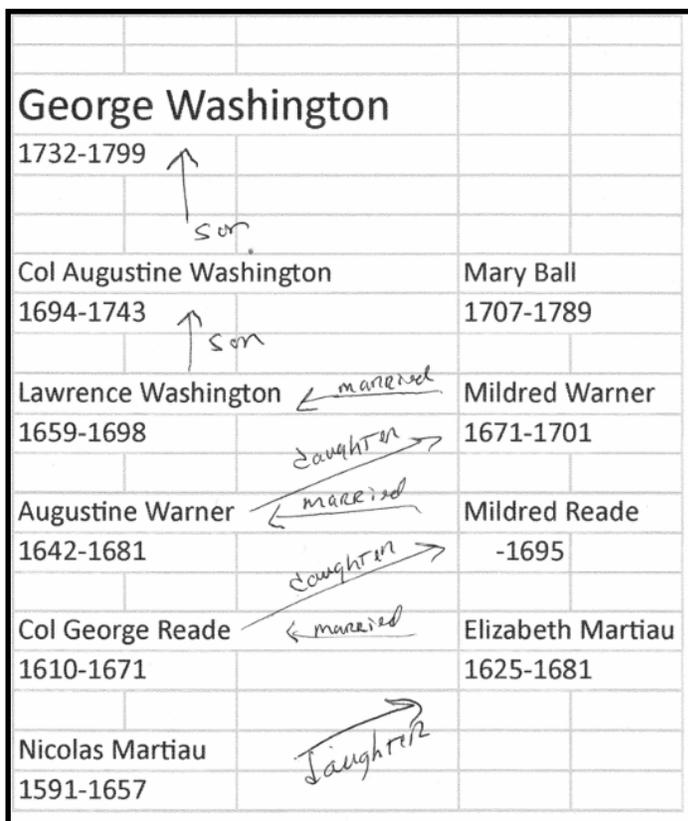
## Nicolas Martiau and the Founding of Yorktown

Nicolas Martiau (1591–1657) was a French Huguenot who played a pivotal role in the early development of Yorktown, Virginia, earning him the title "Father of Yorktown." Born on Île de Ré, France, Martiau fled religious persecution and settled in England before immigrating to Virginia in 1620. Upon arrival, he contributed significantly to the colony's defense by constructing fortifications, notably a defensive fence in Jamestown that protected the settlement during the Powhatan Confederacy's attack in 1622.

In 1635, Martiau received a land grant along the York River, where he established a plantation and further fortified the area. His strategic location and contributions to the colony's infrastructure laid the groundwork for the future town of Yorktown. Although Martiau passed away in 1657, his legacy endured. In 1691, his grandson sold 50 acres of Martiau's land for the establishment of Yorktown, which became a significant port and center of commerce in colonial Virginia.

Martiau's influence extended beyond his lifetime; he was the earliest American ancestor of both George Washington and Governor Thomas Nelson Jr., linking him to two prominent figures in American history. Today, a monument in Saint Martin de Ré, France, commemorates his contributions to American history.

For those interested in exploring Martiau's legacy, the Grace Episcopal Churchyard in Yorktown houses his reinterred remains, along with those of his family members. Additionally, the National Park Service offers resources on the history of Historic Yorktown, providing insights into the town's development and Martiau's role in its founding. (Wikipedia)

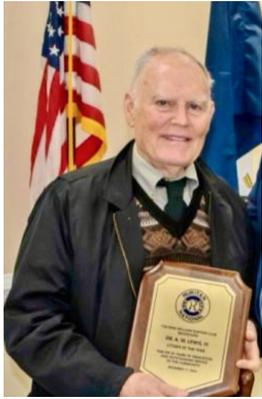


## Congratulations Dr. Lewis!

Dr. Augustine Lewis retired from the facility of the St. Francis Family Medicine Residency Program on December 17, 2024, and received a plaque honoring his 14 years of service at a retirement party given for him by the program administrators, fellow faculty members, and residents.



That same day in the evening he was invited to the



annual King William County Ruritan Club Awards banquet and

there received a plaque for being named “Citizen of the Year” for his 50 years of service to the community.

It was in November of 1974 that Dr. Lewis opened his office in Aylett in King William County. He practiced there until 2010 in the office that his father built in 1957. His father served the community until he died in 1968.

Even before he retired from the practice in Aylett, Dr. Lewis worked in the free clinic in Aylett and continues to do so.

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## Book Review: *The Burning Chambers* by Kate Mosse

The story is a historical novel and takes place in and around Toulouse and Carcassonne, France. It is woven around actual events of the time period. It is a bit of a “swashbuckler” but a fun, easy read (despite its length). Mosse doesn't mince words in describing the brutality of the era. The protagonists are a dashing Huguenot warrior, Piet Reydon and the lovely, charming Catholic Mademoiselle Minou Joubert. Their relationship adds a bit of tension and romance to the story. Carcassonne is today a walled city in France's Languedoc region, possibly worth a visit (see picture).

Google reviews say... “Bringing sixteenth-century Languedoc vividly to life, Kate Mosse's *The Burning Chambers* is a gripping story of love and betrayal, mysteries and secrets; of war, adventure, conspiracies, and divided loyalties in 1562 France. (Wow, what more could you want?)

The book is the first of a planned quartet of books. Three have been published with a fourth book planned.

Of interest is the author's occasional use of old French languages. In her “Note on Language” she says that Langue d'Oc was the medieval language of the region we today call Languedoc. The City Of Carcassonne has a bilingual school teaching Occitan & French. She also includes “Note on the Wars of Religion” for those less informed about European history.

*Fiction; 2018; Published by Minotaur Books*  
575 pages



## Augustine Warner II: Great Grandfather of George Washington

Augustine Warner II, was the great-grandfather of George Washington. He was born on June 3, 1642, and was the only son of Augustine Warner I who had settled in the Virginia colony in 1628 and established a plantation in Gloucester County by 1642. The elder Warner built Warner Hall on the property where he lived with his wife, Mary Townley. He served on the Virginia Governor's Council from 1659 until just before his death in 1674.

The younger Warner, who was born and raised at Warner Hall, was sent to London in 1658 to attend the Merchant Taylors' School, and later Cambridge University. When he returned to Virginia, he married Mildred Reade, the daughter of George Reade and Elizabeth Martiau, of Yorktown. Elizabeth was the daughter of Nicolas Martiau, a French Huguenot born in 1591 on the Île de Ré. He came to Virginia in 1620, making him George Washington's earliest ancestor to land on these shores.

Nicholas Martiau distinguished himself by helping to engineer the palisades that protected the Jamestown settlement and he went on to be one of the founders of Yorktown.

Augustine II, was a successful planter, merchant, and politician like his father, and he also served on the Virginia Governor's Council from 1677 to 1681 and was the 15th speaker of the Virginia House of Burgesses. He was a Colonel in the Virginia militia. He was Speaker for the General Assembly called by Governor Sir William Berkeley that had to be dissolved in response to Nathaniel Bacon's rebellion. Bacon's forces captured Jamestown and burned it on September 19, 1676. After that, he and his men crossed the York River and seized Warner Hall.



The property, crops and livestock suffered considerable damage as a result of Bacon's army's settlement on the property, before Bacon died and the army was defeated, Warner served on a court marshal headed by Berkeley on January 11, 1677 at which many rebels were executed. Berkeley called for elections and Warner was not only elected to represent Gloucester County, but fellow burgesses elected him Speaker of the new House when it convened in February.

Later, Warner sued William Byrd, a sometime supporter of Bacon for the damage his property suffered but was not successful in his suit.

He and his wife Mildred had three sons who died in their youth, but also had three daughters who left many distinguished descendants. Their daughter Mary married John Smith of Purton, and they are ancestors of the royal family of Great Britain. This makes Augustine Warner, the only common ancestor between president George Washington and the British royal family. Another daughter, Mildred, in 1690 married Lawrence Washington (1659-1698) whose son Augustine Washington was the father of George Washington, named for his forefather George Reade.

The youngest daughter Elizabeth married John Lewis in 1691 and they are the grandparents of Fielding Lewis who first married George Washington's cousin then secondly his sister, Betty. John and Elizabeth are also the great grandparents of Meriwether Lewis, the explorer.

Augustine Warner II died on June 19, 1681, at the age of 39, and is buried in the Warner Hall grave yard.—Gus Lewis

## Celebration of James Monroe's Birthday

On April 28th this year David LeGrande, Louis March, and Adrienne Maxwell attended the annual commemoration of the birthday of President James Monroe representing the Virginia Huguenot Society. The event is held at his gravesite in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond on his birthday each year.

It was a beautiful day and Adrienne gave a wonderful speech as she is the Chair of the National Advisory Board of the James Monroe Foundation. Louis and David presented the VHS wreath. Over 50 organizations participated and presented wreaths. In October the Foundation will hold a ceremony at Monroe's birthplace in Westmoreland County, VA. - GR



## President James Monroe - A Huguenot?

Yes, there is evidence that President James Monroe had Huguenot ancestry, though it is not conclusively established as a major part of his lineage. The most frequently mentioned link is through his paternal side.

Monroe's paternal family, the Monroes, were of Scottish origin, but there are indications that one of his ancestors, a great-grandfather or earlier, might have been a Huguenot. One source points to James Monroe's great-grandfather, **Hugues de Munro**, who is believed to have been a Huguenot fleeing religious persecution in France. He eventually settled in England before his descendants came to the American colonies.

There are no definitive records that directly prove that the Monroes had a Huguenot ancestor, but the idea is widely accepted in many historical and genealogical circles based on family tradition and existing evidence.

So, while it's not fully confirmed, there is a longstanding family tradition suggesting that James Monroe had Huguenot ancestors, particularly through his father's lineage.—ChatGPT

### Virginia Huguenot Society Website Great Place for Information!

Whenever you are on online, try to visit our VHS website, [frenchhuguenots-virginiasociety.org](http://frenchhuguenots-virginiasociety.org). We need as many "hits" as we can get to help those interested find out about us. You can learn about Huguenot history and the history of the VHS, membership requirements, photos, issues of past newsletters, and important links on our website.

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](mailto:gerald@aercorp.com).

Visit [frenchhuguenots-virginiasociety.org](http://frenchhuguenots-virginiasociety.org).

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## Hérault Family: Huguenot Supporters during the 16th Century

The Hérault family, a prominent noble family in 16th-century France, played a notable role in supporting the Huguenots, who were French Protestants influenced by the Reformation. During this period, France was marked by intense religious conflict between Catholics and Protestants, known as the French Wars of Religion (1562–1598).

Members of the Hérault family, particularly in the regions where they held land and influence, were known to provide refuge and protection to Huguenots. This support was significant, as the Huguenots were often persecuted by the Catholic majority, and being a noble family offered them the power and resources to protect Protestants in times of religious strife.

Specifically, they helped the Huguenots in several ways:

**Offering Protection:** The Hérault family would have provided safe havens for Protestant families and individuals fleeing from Catholic violence or repression.

**Military Support:** During the Wars of Religion, noble families like the Héraults often took up arms in support of the Protestant cause, fighting alongside Huguenot forces. This was a key aspect of how nobles could aid their allies during this time of war.

**Political Advocacy:** Noble families like the Héraults might have used their influence at court to advocate for policies or actions favorable to the Huguenot cause, helping to counter-balance the pressure from the Catholic factions.

It is also important to note that the Hérault family was part of the larger network of Huguenot sympathizers and supporters in France, many of whom were aligned with figures like Admiral Gaspard de Coligny and King Henry of

Navarre (later Henry IV), who eventually issued the Edict of Nantes in 1598 to grant religious toleration to Huguenots.

While specific details about each individual member of the Hérault family's direct involvement in the Huguenot cause can vary, their role was one of alliance with and support for the Protestant movement during one of France's most tumultuous eras.

*Source - ChatGPT*

I found these pictures of unknown date taken in Nova Scotia, Canada. The plaque reads "Le Hérault accueilli ici les réfugiés Huguenots" or in English "The Hérault's welcomed the Huguenot Refugees here".



So, is anyone familiar with Huguenot migration to Canada? (ed.)



# In Memoriam

## Joan Gilbert Winkler

April 19, 1931 - October 2, 2024

Joan Gilbert Winkler, of Richmond, widow of Dr. Charles Pinckney Winkler, Sr., passed away October 2, 2024. Born in Richmond, she was the daughter of the late Ernest Rucker Gilbert and Lelia Snellings Gilbert. In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Charles P. Winkler, Jr. Surviving are her daughters, Kathryn W. Nicholas and Carol W. Lormand; and grandchildren, James Nicholas, Dylan Lormand, Jennifer Winkler and Chip Winkler.

She was a 1954 graduate of Richmond Professional Institute. Joan had been employed by the Richmond Times-Dispatch as a fashion illustrator.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church and the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America.



## Welcome **New Members**

Great News...The VHS has four new members - Thank you all for your referrals and telling others in the Heritage Community about our active & congenial Society.

### **Robert Hasbrouck Nutt**

506 East Beverley Street  
Staunton, Va 24401  
540-294-5500

[Bob@valleyfeed.com](mailto:Bob@valleyfeed.com)

Ancestor- Abraham Hasbrouck  
#7-523 Date joined January 6, 2025

### **Madeline Sue Rouzie Townsend**

1036 Pampatike Road  
King William, Va 23086-3027  
804-366-2059

[Pampatike@gmail.com](mailto:Pampatike@gmail.com)

Ralph Rowzee  
#7-524. Date joined April 14, 2025

### **Patricia Louise Rouzie Haile**

460 Latanes Mill Road  
Tappahannock, Va 22560-5615  
804-347-0060

[PatriciaRHaile@gmail.com](mailto:PatriciaRHaile@gmail.com)

Ralph Rowzee  
#7-525 Date joined April 14, 2025

### **Anne Whiteside Jackson**

11530 Hanover Courthouse Road  
Hanover, VA 23069-1723  
804-627-3387

[anneuptage@gmail.com](mailto:anneuptage@gmail.com)

Ralph Rowzee  
#7-526. Date joined April 14, 2025

### Update to member contacts

Edward David LeGrande - new phone number, Mobile: (610) 310-2968

James Friend Dickerson - new email: [jachininc@gmail.com](mailto:jachininc@gmail.com)

Our 2025-2027 Yearbook will be published this Summer.

Name: .....

Date: .....

Circle the words in the list as you find them.

Word Directions → ↓ ↗ ↘

# The Huguenots

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| AUTONOMY               | EDICT OF NANTES     | HENRY IV        | LOUIS XIV   | PRIVILEGES      |
| CALVINISM              | EDICT OF VERSAILLES | HUGUENOT CROSS  | LOUIS XV    | REBELLIONS      |
| CONFLICTS              | FRANCE              | HUGUENOTS       | LOUIS XVI   | REFUGEES        |
| DRAGONNADES            | FRENCH PROTESTANTS  | INFLUENCE       | NICODEMITES | RELIGIOUS GROUP |
| EDICT OF FONTAINEBLEAU | FRENCH WARS         | JEANNE D'ALBRET | PERSECUTION | RELIGIOUS WARS  |



**The Virginia Huguenot Society**  
**39 Madison Lane S**  
**Newport News, VA 23606**

President Constance Paradiso  
**paradiso@ntelos.com**

Registrar Catherine Southworth  
**cat.southworth@gmail.com**



**May the LORD of peace  
himself give you peace  
at all times in all ways  
The Lord be with all of you.**

**2 Thess. 3:16**