

# HUGUENOTES

Spring 2014  
Volume 5, Issue 1

THE FRENCH PROTESTANT (HUGUENOT) CHURCH

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## CONFIRMATION CLASS EXPERIENCES

### THE “CHURCH OF THE TIDES” by Bessie Gantt

Writer Maud Newton recently mentioned our church in a small piece for the *New York Times One-Page Magazine* titled “Clinging to Rafts and Religions.” Well, in the case of our Huguenot confirmation class no clinging was necessary and a comfy fishing boat took the place of a raft, but the theme of *Church of the Tides* has become a touchstone for the educational and experiential journey of this year’s class.

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Newton’s story reminds readers that the services of the original Huguenot Church were scheduled so that the worshipers from plantations could ride the tides in and out of town, and Phil and the confirmation class made just such a journey, traveling up the Cooper River to Pompion Hill Chapel and back for a total of eighty-four nautical miles. (To think I’ve let the twenty-five-minute car trip deter me from making church on occasion!) And although the chapel of ease itself was Church of England, it reflects the local Huguenot influence, with its name from an old French word for “pumpkin” (hence its pronunciation) and its location near French Quarter Creek in the midst of the early Huguenot settlements around the Cooper and Santee Rivers.

The trip was a huge success—including an on-deck cookout of burgers and hot dogs—and while a lot of the scenery was certainly drastically different than it had been in the eighteenth and even late seventeenth century, a lot of it remains in a way that the class could imagine what it must have been like for their ancestors making the trip to



worship with herons stalking along the marshgrass, oak trees dripping with moss, and clouds periodically threatening overhead.

Phil has made a concerted effort—much appreciated by the students—to make the confirmation class experience fun as well as educational, including a second boat trip to Fort Sumter followed by lunch on Shem Creek. The class has been learning about the Apostle’s Creed, the basic beliefs of our faith, and the Holy Spirit. As I think about Phil and our children at such an important time in their lives between childhood and adulthood, I can’t think of a better way to truly experience the Holy Spirit or the spirit of our ancestors in faith than soaking up the air and water of this place where God has brought us all—seventeenth-century pilgrims and twenty-first-

century parishioners alike. As the children feel the wind in their faces, the healing salt in the air, and the comforting sense of being a part of this body of travelers together on a boat surrounded by the beautiful, unpredictable, and sometimes dangerous expanse of water and weather, they experience what it means to be a *Church of the Tides* and all the mysterious ways God will take care of them throughout the inevitable highs and lows of life. What a gift Phil is giving our children, and what a gift we have in Phil. Thanksgiving to God for bringing him in on the tide!

Note: Here is the link to read the New York Times piece. Scroll down the page and the article is on the right side.

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/01/19/magazine/19-one-page-magazine.html? r=0>

### Huguenot Confirmation Class Members Enjoy “Church of the Tides” Experience



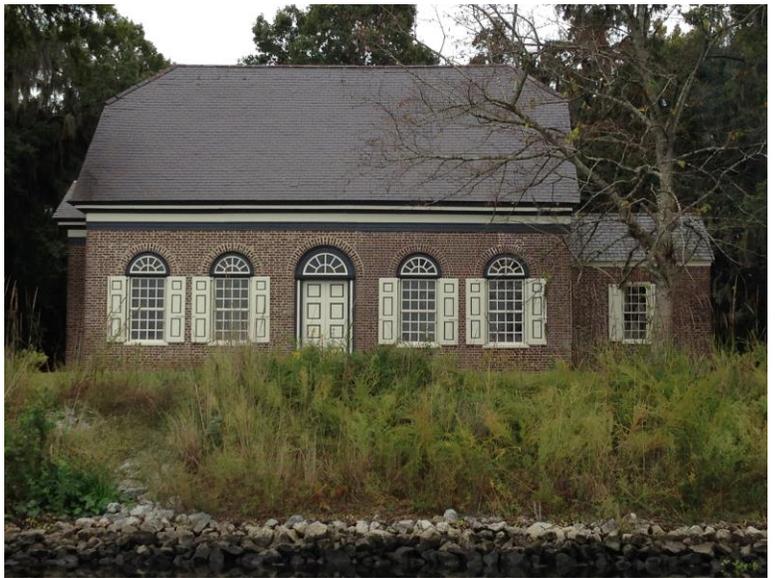


**Top right:** Rebecca Ravenel and Sarah Marshall

**Right:** Emily Richards and Julia Meyers

**Bottom Right:** Pompion Hill Chapel

**Above and below:** Cooper River, Charleston, SC



## “FRENCH TEA” BEING SERVED IN MAGNOLIA’S SUMMER GARDEN

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Magnolia Plantation and Gardens will serve a “French tea in the Lowcountry” on April 6 amid colorful azaleas and a stringed classical trio, reminiscent of a bygone Southern tradition but with a French twist.

Magnolia’s 21st century version of a “French tea” will support the newly formed Friends of André Michaux Charleston Garden Project, named for the French botanist who collected plants and other biological materials in colonial South Carolina for the French government.

Tea drinking was popularized in France around 1636 following the tea plant’s arrival from China, about two decades before it was imported to England.

Enshrined in Southern culture, stylish high-society teas in the 1920s and 1930s were common at Magnolia during the cultural renewal dubbed the Charleston Renaissance.

Magnolia’s historian Lisa Randle said these high-society gatherings in Magnolia’s main house attracted socialites and celebrities such as industrialist Henry Ford, poet and playwright Edna St. Vincent Millay and British novelist William Somerset Maugham.

Tickets are \$65 per person for a “French Tea in the Lowcountry,” beginning promptly at 1:30 p.m. near the horticultural maze. The tea ends at 3:30 p.m. Advance tickets are required. Tickets can be purchased at [www.magnoliaplantation.com](http://www.magnoliaplantation.com). No rain checks or refunds. Seating is limited. Flutist Jane Oddo, violinist Asako Kremer and cellist Damian Kremer of Musique Joyeux Trio will



perform French classics during the serving of a four-course meal prepared by Wendall Edwards, owner and chef of Fork. The menu includes, scones, cool roasted spring carrot soup, spring garden Napoleon followed by a fresh berry salad. The desert tray will consist of an array of sweets, including mini chocolate tart and pate de fruit.

Mary Miller, chairman of the Friends of Michaux, said proceeds will support additional garden archeology at the site of Michaux’s home and garden. After arriving in Charleston in September 1786, he established an 111-acre French Botanic Garden ten miles northwest of Charleston where he processed and packaged plants for shipment to France. The site is near the Charleston International Airport.

For more information and/or to purchase tickets, please go to:

[http://www.magnoliaplantation.com/french\\_tea\\_at\\_magnolia.html](http://www.magnoliaplantation.com/french_tea_at_magnolia.html)

COCKTAILS IN THE COURTYARD OYSTER ROAST  
- FEBRUARY 27, 2014 -



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# French Protestant (Huguenot) Church

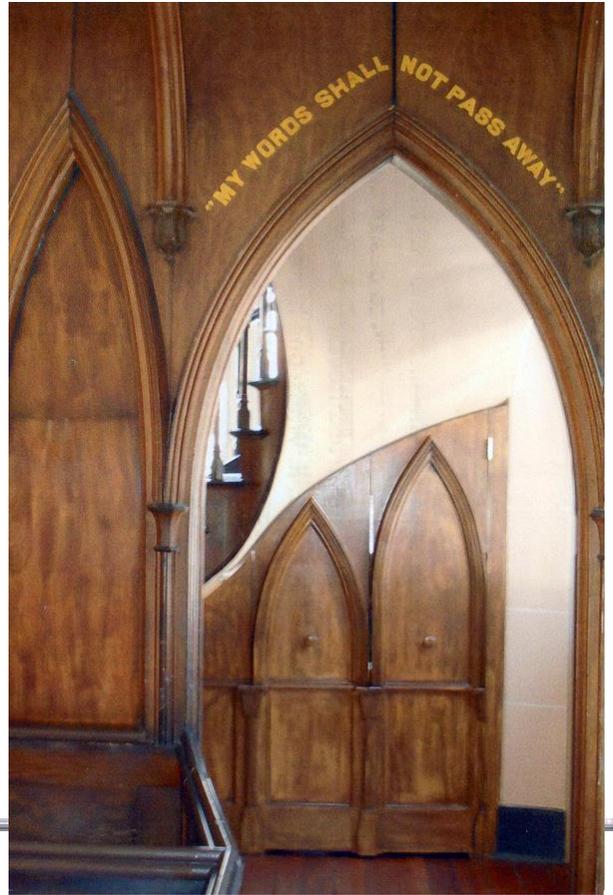


## Member Directory Winter, 2014

*T*he new French Protestant (Huguenot) Church Member Directory is now available! We would like to thank Patty Bucher, Beth Dixon, Mackall Horres, and Lynn Riebe for all their hard work taking pictures, collecting the data, and entering all the information in the new software program. We are distributing the directory via email. It is in .PDF format which is easily viewable on Windows and Mac computers. Some printed copies will be made available at 44 Queen Street. If you see any errors in your entry, please send the correction(s) to Lynn Riebe at [frenchhuguenotch@bellsouth.net](mailto:frenchhuguenotch@bellsouth.net). And if your entry is missing a photograph, please send us a picture!

## NEWS FROM THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH by Pat Hiott-Mason

The Women of the Huguenot church financed a much needed storage area that has been added in the narthex of our church. It is located under the stairs that lead to the choir loft. John Hilton and Pat Hiott-Mason joined with wood workers, Glenn and Buddy Balwin to design and build a fold-out screen. The goal was to repeat the architectural designs from the back panels in the interior of the church that E. B. White one hundred and eighty nine years ago gave us when he designed the church. Much effort was made to preserve the integrity of the architectural design of the free standing stair well and to blend the new addition with the old panels. Already the area is filled with extra folding chairs, a wheel chair and the candle stands which are used on special occasions in the church sanctuary. Much of the success of this project goes to Balwin Woodworks located in Meggett, S.C. Their skills were exceptional enabling us to reach our goal of an addition that could blend with the rest of our church.



## BEAUTIFICATION by Pat Hiott-Mason

One of our “green thumb” members has used his gift to beautify our church grounds. In case you haven’t noticed seven new camellia shrubs have been planted along the fence on the Queen Street side. They are now in bloom. Thank you, John Hilton.



## ANNUAL FRENCH SERVICE AND COLLATION

Sunday, March 23, 2014, the French Protestant Huguenot Church held its Annual French Service followed by a collation in the 44 Queen Street Courtyard.

Our guest liturgist for the day was Mr. Greg Joye, Executive Director of the French Heritage Society. Mr. Joye, originally from South Carolina, is a College of Charleston graduate with a BA in Music. He lived in Paris for six years where he earned a Masters in History from the University of Versailles and also a Masters in Cultural Administration and Management for Music from the University of Paris IV-Sorbonne. After six years at American Friends of the Louvre, he became the Executive Director of the French Heritage Society in 2010.

Our guest speaker was Comte Denis de Kergorlay, President of the French Heritage Society. A graduate of the Institut d'Etudes Politiques and the



Universite d'Assas, he is a former lecturer at the Institut International d'Administration Publique in Paris. He was also the cultural attaché at the French Embassy in Thailand. He returned to France in 1978 to manage the Cateau de Canisy, his family estate in Normandy. His volunteer activities have included involvement with the humanitarian NGO Medecins Sans Frontieres for over 10 years. He is the current Executive President of Europa Nostra, a pan-European heritage protection organization, and President of Cercle de l'Union Interallie founded in 1917 to welcome Allied officers and distinguished foreigners.

Steven Rosenberg on recorder and Blake Steven on harpsichord played the lovely Le Rossignol en Amour composed by Francois Couperin.

In celebration of the completion of the French Huguenot Church's full exterior restoration, bouyed by the Atlanta chapter's \$20,000.00 grant, the French Heritage Society presented our church with a plaque. Members of both the Atlanta and New York Chapters of the Society were present for the service.



## COLUMBARIUM

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The French Protestant Huguenot Church's Board of Directors is pleased to announce The Columbarium on the east side of the Church has been completed. Forty-one plots with accompanying gray stone markers measuring 20 x 20 x 2.25 inches are now available. The general rules regarding the purchase of plots are outlined below.

1. Ten plots with accompanying stones will be sold per year.
2. Church members and associate members will be given first choice in purchasing plots every year.
3. Any plots remaining at each year's end will be offered to Huguenot Society members that have shown generosity to the Church.
4. The cost is \$3000 per plot. \$1500 is for the actual plot, and \$1500 is for the perpetual care of the cemetery.
5. A maximum of two burial urns may be placed in each plot.
6. A single family may purchase a maximum of four plots.
7. The plots are subject to the already in place "Cemetery and Burial Rules."
8. Pastor Phil Bryant will handle the sale of all plots.
9. The Board of Directors will resolve all matters of conflict, should any such matters arise.



John Hilton, President Board of Directors

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## HUGUENOT CHURCH SERMONS

You can now listen to the French Protestant (Huguenot) Church sermons from our website. Go to our website at [www.huguenot-church.org](http://www.huguenot-church.org). On the home page under the Church heading, scroll down and click Sermons.

These recorded sermons are delivered by our pastors and other guest speakers during our weekly church services on Sunday at 10:30, and are uploaded to our website as audio files in .MP3 format. You can click the Play button(s) on this webpage (the triangular arrow) to listen to the recording(s).

## HUGUENOT CLASSIFIEDS

*"Therefore by their fruits ye shall know them." (Matt. 7:20 Geneva Bible 1560)*

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- 1) Crisis Ministries service days: Contact: William Applegate [william@yarboroughapplegate.com](mailto:william@yarboroughapplegate.com) 972-0150.
  - 2) Fellowship/Social Events Committee: Interested? Join a committee to look into having a new quarterly congregational social supper. Contact: [frenchhuguenotch@bellsouth.net](mailto:frenchhuguenotch@bellsouth.net) 722-4385.
  - 3) Worship/Altar Guild: Communion Silver Polish four times per year. Communion Linens as needed. Contact: [frenchhuguenotch@bellsouth.net](mailto:frenchhuguenotch@bellsouth.net) 722-4385.
  - 4) Newsletter: Contact: Anne Blessing [anneandbo@yahoo.com](mailto:anneandbo@yahoo.com) 860-4556.
  - 5) Collation (Ongoing): Pick a Sunday soon. Just sign up to bring a dish. Contact: [frenchhuguenotch@bellsouth.net](mailto:frenchhuguenotch@bellsouth.net) 722-4385.
  - 6) Ushers: Contact Bill Thornton [sandwthornton@comcast.net](mailto:sandwthornton@comcast.net) 722-7630.
  - 7) Lay Reader: Contact Bill Thornton [sandwthornton@comcast.net](mailto:sandwthornton@comcast.net) 722-7630.
  - 8) Interested in the history of the church? Volunteer to lead a tour for visitors after normal Sunday worship. Contact: Gloria Hedden 881-8831.
  - 9) Louise Carraway is available to teach beginner - intermediate piano lessons to children and adults. Anyone interested should contact her at 803-236-7249 or [louisecarraway@gmail.com](mailto:louisecarraway@gmail.com).
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## NEW WEB SITE

**W**e have a new web site for the church. Please visit [huguenot-church.org](http://huguenot-church.org). If you have feedback or suggestions, please send an email to [frenchhuguenotch@bellsouth.net](mailto:frenchhuguenotch@bellsouth.net).

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## A WORD ON SOLICITING

**W**hat is soliciting? Soliciting is asking someone for help or, more particularly, for money. What the Church would like everyone to know is, if a fellow parishioner comes to you with a need, especially a need for money, the thing to do is to direct them to Pastor Phil or Pastor Tom. Furthermore, the Body of Elders and the Board of Directors would ask that those approached for help would not endeavor to help personally, but, rather, refer the person in need to Pastor Phil or Pastor Tom. Our Pastors have a special discretionary fund designed to help parishioners with specific needs. Please do not take this to mean our Pastors can help whenever approached, but they are certainly the ones best equipped to determine how to help.

The French Protestant Huguenot Church is on **Facebook!**  
Please "Like" us at [www.facebook.com/TheFrenchChurch](http://www.facebook.com/TheFrenchChurch)