

Journal of the
Association of Philippe du Trieux Descendants



volume 34. No. 1 **Spring 2016**

**President's
 Note**



Dear cousins,

As most of you know, the Association's Vice President and Journal Editor Karen Vaina is chairing the Truax/Truex reunion with the help of our Treasurer Jan Hagemeister, our Historian Kim Mabee, Facebook and web manager Wendy Baker, and Colleen Duggan who is researching Truax & Truex names for potential attendees. The reunion will be held in Albany, New York, Aug 5-7, 2016.

Karen is giving you a reunion update and soon mailing out a package of information. With that in mind, I am limiting my usual letter in the Journal to passing on how much work they are doing to make certain those attending have a fun and informative experience. Please contact Karen if you would like to offer your help. Contacts are on page 4.

Please spread the word to all the Truax/Truex descendants you know and/or are in your area. If possible, look for names and addresses in your phone book and send them to Karen. She will then send an invitation to them. One of the ways we are reaching out to descendants is by contacting historical societies throughout the United States and Canada and asking them to post a notice of our reunion in their newsletter. Please help by letting us know of any Society we should contact. In addition, we will send newspapers a notice of the reunion hoping they might print it. Please let us know the name of the newspaper in your geographic area.

Paul

Paul W. Truax
 President



visit www.philippedutrieux.com for more information and to inquire about genealogy links from our historians.

Dutch Reality Show

The Dutch Golden Age of the 17th century changed the way people looked at real life by the paintings that were produced by the "masters." Up until that era, most people viewed only life of the royalty. It is a good way for people interested in ancestry to view what life was like. After all, we don't have photos to view, only the lasting images of fine art.

The Dutch were the first to acknowledge in art that women were an important part of the daily life. Sure, they mostly took care of their family and households, but they were also respected for their opinions and help. In *The Shipbuilder and His Wife* (Rembrandt), this masterpiece



"announces that women were often equal partners in an economy propelled by family enterprise."

(continued on page 4.)

REUNION UPDATE

Paul has pretty much covered all the ways we can think of for spreading the word of our reunion. If you are reading this, you will be getting an invitation, whether a digital or "paper copy" subscriber in the mail at the end of this month. In most envelopes will be two registration forms for you and your guest as each person is required to send in a registration form and \$25 fee. The fee will be used to cover the costs of insurance (which is mandatory), mailings, speaker and audio visual costs. Our historian will be available Saturday afternoon to help in your genealogy search.

Speakers are being secured and agenda is shaping up nicely. We really hope you will come and make this a fun and memorable occasion. Plus, we really want to meet you!

Remember, you don't have to be a member of the Association to attend!

Remembering Another Justice

Oliver Wendell Holmes



With the sudden death of Justice Anton Scalia recently, we should remember with pride that a well known Supreme Court Justice was a descendant of Philippe du Trieux. What's more, he was nominated by another descendant, President Theodore Roosevelt. Justice Holmes saw the importance of ancestry as eloquently written in his Heredity essay.

Roosevelt and Holmes were friends before his nomination, but that friendship was strained as Justice Holmes often went against the intent of the President.

"Theodore Roosevelt is often credited with founding and shaping the modern American presidency. With his appointment of Oliver Wendell Holmes to the Supreme Court of the United States, Roosevelt also set in motion a force that would transform the judiciary. However, it did not go as Roosevelt had planned. Holmes' refusal to conform to Roosevelt's desires in Northern Securities Co. v. United States demonstrated that Holmes was his own man and not Roosevelt's instrument. The decision brought an abrupt halt to what had been becoming a close friendship between the two men. Over the years the rift deepened. The bitterness that grew between them reflected more than a difference of opinion over law and economic principles; it reflected the type of disillusionment that comes only when a friend fails to live up to expectations." (Wiley Online Library)

HEREDITY by Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes

What is called my character, or nature, is made up of infinite particles of inherited tendencies from my ancestors – those whose blood runs in my veins. A little seed of laziness comes from this grandfather; and of prodigality from that other one. One of them may have been a moody person and a pessimist; while another was of a jovial nature who always saw the sunny side of every event. One may have had a most satisfactory life as a philosopher; while another ambitious one never was contented with actual conditions whatever they were. Some remote grandmother, perhaps, has stamped me with a fear of dogs and love of horses. There may be in me a bit of outlawry from some pirate forefather and a dash of piety from one who was a saint.

My so called particularities; my gestures, my ways and my mannerisms, I borrowed from all, without any exception. So everything in me passes on through my children. I am sewn between ancestry and posterity. I am a drop of water in the flowing river of time; a molecule in a mountain; a cell in a great family tree.

As we enter life we find all these fears and fancies; likes and dislikes; dispositions and temperament already made in the human beehive and crawl into them; so that they become a part of our true fiber; part of our personal textures. This is our birthmark; this is our heritage. – Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. (1841-1935)

(Genealogy: Susanna du Trieux, daughter of Philippe and Susanna du Chesne married Evert Janson Wendell. The Wendell name holds until Sarah Wendell married Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. in 1801.)

Interesting Emails from Our Members

William Flores writes that after some research he found that Susanna du Chesne's maiden name may have been Fabri/ Favri, which is now Faberge.

"Coincidence, who knows? The Fabri, now Faberge's were French Huguenots who shared a too similar plight to the du Trieux family." (from *The Extraordinary Story of the Masterpieces*)



For more information on the famous Faberge eggs. Google House of Faberge.

Elizabeth Fulford wrote that she finally had time to write the story about this unusual trunk that has been in her family for years.



Elizabeth lives in Fort Lauderdale and living only 90 miles to her north, I felt her pain in crediting the fall rainy weather for her extra time. Her story was very interesting, but space will only allow a recap. The trunk has travelled from Ohio to Michigan to Florida. In a secret compartment, she found her mother's cut off pigtails, as tradition was to keep them. The trunk has been used for linen storage, passing down thru generations. Everyone knew the trunk was the possession someone named Great Aunt Alice, but who was she? Finally, it was determined that Aunt Alice was the daughter of Lorenzo Truax and Elizabeth White born about 1852. *More about this in a later issue of the Journal.*

Philippe Runs Interference Between Early Issues of Church and State

Upon emigrating to New Amsterdam, Philippe du Trieux's transfer of membership from the Church of Leyden likely seemed easy enough—to provide a sanctuary for those in need of laying aside the cares of the world. Philippe had some surprises in store. The founding of the Reformed Church at New Amsterdam was troubled and for the rest of his life, Philippe would often find it a place of controversy.

The official policy of the Netherlands and Dutch West India Company was to permit only the Dutch Reformed Church to exist in New Netherland. However, the authorities made it clear that this applied only to *public* worship. Every citizen was to be free to follow his conscience. Official support for granting the Reformed Church a monopoly in the New World was often withheld since there were varying groups of Protestants and Jews in the new homeland.

During the first four years, the new settlers had no ordained ministers, only laymen who comforted the sick and could not speak French. A letter was written back to Amsterdam describing the first service.

“At the first administration of the Lord's supper which was observed, not without great joy and comfort to many, we had fully fifty communicants, Walloons and Dutch, a number of whom made their first confession of faith before us. “

The poorly paid clergymen lived lives of frustration. They disapproved of the “earthy ways” of the increasingly diversified culture. They disapproved of the conduct of the personalities of the Governors and other public officials. And, the officials disapproved of them.

Here's where Philippe enters the fray. As the Governor appointed court messenger and marshal, Philippe du Trieux would often be caught in the no-man's land between church and government during three administrations. The conflict reached its height during the administrations of Governors Van Twiller and Kieft. The Reverend Bogardus publicly described Governor Van Twiller as a “child of the Devil, an incarnate villain, whose buck goats are better than he.” Tired of such criticism, the Governor on one occasion drew his sword and chased the Dominie down a New Amsterdam street.



An Old Dutch Reform Church still standing in Albany, New York. (Photo from Albany Historical Society.)

During this bitter period, the Dutch records show that Philippe was carrying messages from Kieft that showed a portion of a sermon.”...in consequence of the excessive heat, different wild animals copulate together whereby many monsters are created, he knew not whence these monsters of men proceeded.” *(Not sure what the implication was.)* The Reverend's foes accused him of being a drunkard, appearing to be intoxicated in the pulpit, abusing his wife and several citizens, and being personally fearful of taking communion due to his inner guilts.

Governor Kieft finally refused to attend services and pressured other public officials to join the boycott, including his court messenger, Philippe. Eventually, however, due to the Governor wanting his daughter to be married in a church, the two sides decided to work together to build St. Nicholas Church. Ironically, Kieft and Bogardus sailed back to Amsterdam to mend their differences and both drowned on the ship as it sank.

Throughout 40 years of Dutch rule, policies of religious tolerance had become the custom of New Amsterdam. Varied religions of Christians took root and the Jewish faith had become a permanent part of the community. Our ancestor, Philippe acted as what could only be described in today's language as an emissary or agent torn between his position in the West Indian Company and his new life in a tumultuous new world clinging to the old.

Additional information of this story was first printed in the December 1986 issue of the Journal. A description of the Governor's daughter's wedding détente with the minister was highlighted in the Winter 2013 Journal.



Research Corner

As Jonathan Lopez summed up the Dutch Golden Age in his article about the Boston Museum of Art's exhibit, "As the Dutch Republic freed itself from imperial Spain during Eighty Years' War (1568-1648), a swelling tide of delight swept across the dikes and canals of that plucky, flat hydraulically engineered nation. People from all walks of life suddenly realized there was one issue upon which they could unanimously agree: Being Dutch was terrific!"

Artists were kept busy by the demand to show domestic images as life really was in The Netherlands. The images now showed the working class slaughtering pigs, digging ditches, scaling fish, and all other aspects of everyday life.



Boy picking fleas off his dog. (Terborch)



Distraught woman asking for money (Metsu)

Officers & Contact Information:

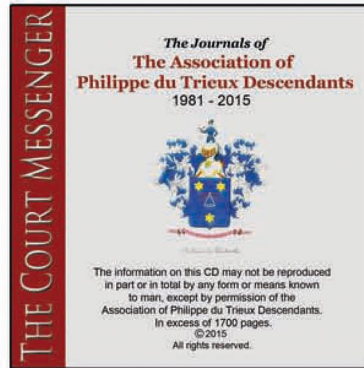
Paul Truax
 President
 wiwilla@aol.com
 P.O. Box 520, Chester, VT 05143
 Tel: 802-875-3800

Karen Vaina
 Vice-President & Journal Editor
 kvaina@comcast.net
 1969 SW St. Andrews Dr., Palm City, FL 34990
 Tel: 772-287-8841

Jan Hagemeister
 Treasurer
 jmhagemeister@msn.com
 2020 Madison Street, SE, Albany OR 97322

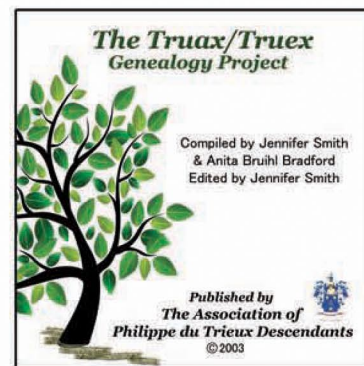
Kim Mabee
 Historian
 kimandgarymabee@gmail.com
 15 Van Buren Lane, Scotia, NY 12302

PRODUCTS TO HELP IN YOUR FAMILY RESEARCH



NEW!

\$25 including shipping
 \$30 non members



\$30 including shipping
 \$35 non members

When ordering these send check to Jan at address on this page.

Don't forget to send your dues in if you haven't already! Reminder: if you joined in the last half of 2015, your dues are good thru 2016.

Send to Jan Hagemeister at the address on this page. Checks made payable to Association of Philippe du Trieux Descendants. Thanks, your \$15 dues help with the printing of these Journals, research, and the production of the products above.

We continue to grow!

Welcome New Members
 Elizabeth Gilboy, Blacksburg, VA
 Judith Sidey, Damascus, OR
 and a special welcome to
 Michelle Harrington
 Edinburgh, Scotland