

FAMILY NOTES



The Authorized Newsletter of

The Hubbell Family Historical Society

Descendants of Richard Hubball, Immigrant to North America

Incorporated in Missouri

Number 48

Autumn 2009

Fund Awards Three \$1,000 Scholarships for 2009-10

The Hubbell Family Scholarship Fund, founded in 1992, is a function of The Hubbell Family Historical Society, a not-forprofit organization. The purpose of the fund is to award scholarships to descendants of our immigrant ancestor, Richard Hubball. Applicants must be members of the Society, or children or grandchildren of members. Eligibility requirements include satisfactory completion of one year at an accredited college and awards are intended for undergraduate study only. Only one award is given per applicant, with the number and amount of Scholarships to be determined by the officers and directors of the Society.

For the 2009-2010 academic year, the Scholarship Fund Committee awarded three \$1,000.00 scholarships to eligible applicants. The drawing by lottery of the Scholarship Recipients was held at the Parma, Ohio, offices of Ralph A. DeLuca, CPA.

We present the 2009-2010 Scholarship Recipients in alphabetical order:

Dori Anne Baldwin

Dori is 19 years old from Frederick, Colorado, and the granddaughter of THFHS member Mr. &. Mrs. Ray H. Baldwin. She attends the Metropolitan State College of Denver, with a major in Human Development with Elementary Education Licensure.

"Ever since I've been able to, I have involved myself in multiple clubs and activities. I think that it is so important to stay involved, and for me, a source of accomplishment. I am a very dedicated, responsible, driven individual with a very strong work ethic and proven leadership qualities. I strive at achieving my goals and I never give up no matter how hard the situation may be. Throughout high school and my first year of college I have maintained this sense of mind."

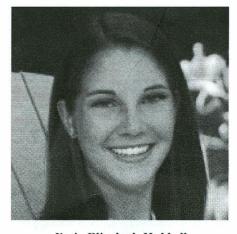
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Dori Anne Baldwin



Julia S. Hubbell



Katie Elizabeth Hubbell

Julia S. Hubbell

Julia is 21 years old from Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the granddaughter of (A&R 8977) Dr. & Mrs. John P. (Martha G.) Hubbell. She attends Clark University in Worcester, MA, working toward a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, expected December 2010.

"After transferring to Clark as a second semester freshman, I found my niche within the university's Sociology department and the Women's Varsity soccer team. Sociology enables me to explore my culminating interest within the subject of inequality and also other new areas such as, gender and genocide. I also enjoy studying and living within urban environments, and therefore, I get involved with the community by volunteering at schools and mentoring youth. In the future, I hope to continue this sort of involvement by completing a fifth year through Clark's Community Development and Planning Master's Program."

Continued on Page 4...

Katie Elizabeth Hubbell

Katie is 19 years old from Dacula, Georgia, and the granddaughter of (A&R 10536) Mr. & Mrs. James Melvin (Gwendolyn) Hubbell. She attends Georgia College & State University with a major in Business.

"I was born in Birmingham, Alabama. My family moved to Georgia when I was two years old. My grandparents are James and Gwendolyn Hubbell and my parents are Dale and Debbie Hubbell. I also have a brother, Michael, who is four years younger than me.

When I was six years old I began going to North East Atlanta Christian School, later to be called Hebron Christian Academy. I attended this school all twelve years. I earned many awards while I was attending school."

Continued on Page 4...

FAMILY NOTES

~ NUMBER 48~

The official, authorized newsletter of The Hubbell Family Historical Society, distributed twice yearly to members. An Annual of Society reports, history, biography, and genealogy is also distributed to members.

Editor:

John A. Hubbell 12203 Clifton Blvd. #30 Lakewood, OH 44107

Phone: 216/544-1563

E-mail: hubbell thfhs@yahoo.com

HUBBELL CENTER

Library ~ Museum ~ Archive

President, Acting Sec'y & Treasurer: James W. Hubbell, Jr.

Vice President:

Harvey Hubbell, IV

Assistant Treasurer:

David Bridgewater

Librarian/Curator:

Patricia Dawson

Historian:

Harold B. Hubbell, Jr.

500 SW 7th Street, Suite 307 Des Moines, IA 50309 515/243-3586

E-mail: Hubcentr@aol.com

Gifts are tax deductible. Members are invited to send contributions directly to Hubbell Center.

HUBBELL FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Committee Chair:

Donald C. Hubbell 5102 Kenmore Avenue Parma, OH 44134

Phone: 440/886-4148 E-mail: donald@dchubbell.com

Gifts are tax deductible. Members are invited to send contributions directly to THFHS Scholarship Fund.



THIS ISSUE:

Fund Awards Three Scholarships	Page 1
Broadcast Studio Named for Hubbell	Page 3
A Visit to Des Moines - Hubbell Center	Page 4
THFHS Biennial Reunion in Review	Page 5
EDITOR/PUBLISHER WANTED	Page 5
6-Year-Old Helps Rescue Her Mother	Page 6
Moons Cross Saturn in Hubble View	Page 6
Blood Drive Honors Jessica Hubbell	Page 7
The Hubbell Family Foundation	Page 7
Hubbell Runs Long Beach Marathon	Page 7
Caribbean Circumnavigation	Page 8



Hubbell Family Crest ~ Obtained in London, 1831



Seal of The Hubbell Family Historical Society

THE HUBBELL FAMILY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The mission of The Hubbell Family Historical Society is to research the genealogy, preserve the history, recognize the achievements, and promote fellowship for the descendants of Richard Hubball, the immigrant.

A volunteer, not-for-profit organization founded in 1981, incorporated in 1982. The Society invites membership from descendants of Richard Hubball of England and New Haven Colony, Connecticut, from persons interested in genealogy and history, and from organizations supporting such activities.

President:

Hilbert R. Hubble **Vice President:** Marjorie M.H.K. Hlava **Recording Secretary:** Dorcas L. Aunger **Corresponding Secretary:** Betty Jo Chapman Treasurer: Dr. Peter O. Hansen

Annual Dues:

(Payable in U.S. or Canadian dollars)	
Individual / Family (w/minor children) \$15	
Contributing Member 50	
Participating Member 100	
Proud to be a Hubbell/Hubble 200	
Societies and Libraries10	

Reunions:

Membership-reunion meetings are held every two years. The next Biennial will be held at Salt Lake City, Utah, in 2011.

For information, write the Society:

Hilbert R. Hubble, President 2900 N. Leisure World Blvd. #411 Silver Spring, MD 20906-7307 E-mail: hhubble@comcast.net

Visit our web site: http://www.hubbell.org Dori Anne Baldwin

... Continued from Page 1

"When I was a freshman at Frederick High School I decided I would try something new and different, something that I had never done before; cheerleading. I pushed through the week of clinics and put 110% effort into that final evaluation and ended up making the team. This accomplishment started a new trend of more accomplishments yet to come. I was a freshman class officer and involved in student council. I also joined a club called El Pomar Youth in Community Service (EPYCS), which grants money to local non-profit organizations. In addition I maintained a 4.0 grade point average and received many academic awards including an academic letter.

In my sophomore year of high school I was a varsity cheerleader and participated on the competitive cheerleading team. I also started my second year of student council as the Sophomore Class Vice President and continued my services to my community as an EPYCS member. My academics became more difficult when I started taking honors courses, but I finished my second year with a GPA of 4.063 and received my second academic letter.

The clubs, activities and academics dramatically increased in my junior year of high school. I continued contributing to student council as a Junior Class officer and in EPYCS, as the Co-President. I enjoyed cheering for my school and received the National Cheerleading Association All-American Nominee Award for Leadership. At the beginning of the year a new dance team was formed at my school. I tried out and not only made the team, but was also appointed choreographer. My efforts resulted in my first varsity dance letter. I have always enjoyed teaching others and I decided to join the Warrior Way Freshman Mentoring Program. One highlight of my junior year was being an Honor Guard at the Class of 2007's graduation. Another accomplishment of my eleventh grade year was being inducted into the National Honor Society.

At the start of my senior year of high school I received my second NCA All-American Nominee Award for leadership in cheerleading as well as my third varsity letter. I was elected dance team captain and received an award from the National Dance Alliance in Showmanship and Spirit. I participated on the competitive dance team and earned my second varsity dance letter. I

continued my second year as the Co-President of EPYCS and joined the Warrior Way Program as a group leader. I was also an officer in National Honor Society. I also had the great honor of receiving the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizens Award for the Longs Peak Chapter. In addition to this prestigious award I also received the Frederick High School Staff Scholarship, and the Frederick Success Scholarship.

Throughout high school I stayed very involved with the community and school and I have continued throughout my first year of college. In the fall of 2008 I enrolled at Metropolitan State College of Denver. I enrolled with a full academic schedule. I am majoring in Human Development while also earning my Elementary Education teaching license.

In addition to having a full academic schedule I worked 30-40 hours a week at Auraria Early Learning Center which is a daycare on campus. I worked as a teacher's aide to gain more experience in the education field. I currently work at Creative Years Learning Center which is a learning center in my hometown of Frederick, where I also work as a teacher's aide. While this job is a temporary summer job, I feel I'm still gaining experience that will benefit me in my future career.

To stay involved in the Frederick community I started to help out the Frederick High School Dance Team as an assistant coach. I'm now entering my second year as a volunteer assistant coach, and will be taking the team over as the volunteer head coach next year. In my first year of coaching I helped lead the team to earning two bids to Nationals in California and Florida, as well as establishing a more competitive team. I was also just certified by National Dance Alliance credentials as a coach.

One last big accomplishment I made was making the 2009-10 Metro State College Cheer and Dance Team. After a very rigorous tryout, and interview process, I passed the final evaluations and made the team. I feel this will also help with coaching because I will have more experience to offer to the team.

As you can see I have stayed very involved in the community and I plan to continue. I hope to gain even more experience in leading children in doing things they love, and learning. Ultimately I hope to own and direct my own learning center where I can provide quality child care to low income families."

Loyal Benefactor Leaves \$1.4 Million Bequest to WNED

Classical 94.5 Broadcast Studio Named in Honor of Charles N. Hubbell

Buffalo, NY – WNED Buffalo/Toronto will name its Classical 94.5 FM broadcast booth "The Charles N. Hubbell Studio" in honor of a generous benefactor who recently bequeathed \$1.4 million to the public broadcasting station. A plaque will be unveiled during a rededication ceremony at WNED headquarters, 140 Lower Terrace in downtown Buffalo, on July 22, 2009, at 10 am. Hubbell's attorney, Lisa Allen, who helped facilitate the gift, will be present.

The former engineer was obviously passionate about music especially classical music. He amassed more than 10,000 CDs and had his home wired for exceptional sound. Most recently a resident of an assisted living facility in Amherst, Hubbell was a bachelor with no heirs when he died in 2007 at age 72.

Records dating back to 1982 show that Hubbell contributed to WNED's television and radio stations for at least 25 years. In 2005, he established a trust that provided a modest income for himself and named WNED the beneficiary. WNED received the resulting legacy gift – the largest in the station's history – last December.

WNED's President and CEO Donald K. Boswell hailed Hubbell as one of public broadcasting's most loyal fans. "We don't know much about this quiet patron," he said, "but we are extremely grateful for his enormous generosity.

"To all of us at WNED, his name will serve as a dramatic reminder of the impact we have, and of our unique responsibility to viewers and listeners. We will ensure that his gift will foster the best that public broadcasting can offer, especially the life-enhancing programming that must have inspired Mr. Hubbell's long-time support."

As with all bequests left to WNED, Hubbell's contribution will become part of the WNED Foundation's endowment, with investment earnings maintaining a legacy of classical music and public broadcasting for generations to come.

THFHS Congratulates Scholarship Recipients

Julia S. Hubbell

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"In addition to the academic side of my college experience, playing soccer helps me balance my time, keeps me involved with Clark, and fosters a sense of camaraderie and competition that I am very passionate about.

Next spring I plan on studying abroad in Valparaiso, Chile in order to broaden my knowledge of the Spanish language, as well as experience a new and different culture.

In addition, I am the youngest of three girls and I have learned most of what I know from both of my sisters, Meredith and Madeleine.

Thank you for considering me for this scholarship. It is a great opportunity."

Julia's outstanding academic performance during Spring 2009 semester earned her a place on the Clark Dean's List and achieved First Academic Honors. This list is voted by the College Board and approved by Walter Wright, Dean of the College. To be included on the Dean's List, a student must have earned a minimum grade point average

of 3.5 for Second Honors and a 3.8 for First Honors. Additionally, a student must have been enrolled in a minimum of 4 courses, at least three of which were letter-graded; have had no grade lower than B- in any course; and have had no incompletes or withdrawals after the seventh week of the semester.

Katie Elizabeth Hubbell

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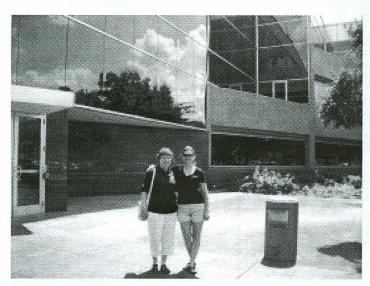
"These awards include Perfect Attendance three years in a row, Junior and National Honor Society, and the National Fitness Test Award. I was on the State Championship Cheerleading team for two of the four state titles and earned the Most Valuable Player award. I also played for the school's soccer team ninth through twelfth grade where I earned the Coaches Award and Most Valuable Defense Award. I graduated with a 3.75 grade point average and two college credits from joint enrollment.

In 2008, I began college at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville. I was involved in the intramural teams, swing dancing association, and Baptist College Ministry on campus. At the end of the year I had earned a 3.2 grade point average.

At home, I am involved with my church by volunteering for children's camps and helping the bus children in the community. I baby-sit very regularly and have been a nanny for the past three years during the summer for a family with two kids. In my spare time I love to exercise, play sports, read, and scrapbook.

In the future I plan to do several things. First, I plan on graduating college with a Business degree with a concentration in Marketing. Second, I plan to travel. I took trips to Costa Rica, England, and Wales a couple years ago which sparked my interest in other countries and other cultures. Whether my future job involves international travel or I go on my own, I would like to learn from people with different backgrounds and different cultures than my own. Thirdly, I would like to work for a company that keeps me learning new things and creating new ideas for the company or our product. I never want to stop learning no matter what I do with my life."

A Visit To Des Moines Hubbell Center



Karen Hubbell Wertanen & daughter, Marlene

In July 2009, Karen Hubbell Wertanen (THFHS member, daughter of Basil Hubbell #11355) and her daughter, Marlene, visited Hubbell Center in Des Moines. "We looked up our Hubbell family information and Pat Dawson was very helpful. Attached are a couple of pictures of our visit to the center. One is of Pat and me in the center and the other is of my daughter and I outside the Hubbell building."



Pat Dawson & Karen Hubbell Wertanen

THFHS Biennial Reunion In Review

Mystic, Connecticut • 31 May - 4 June, 2009



By Hilbert Hubble, President

The Mystic, Connecticut reunion was highlighted by family interaction and four excursions, a day at the historic Mystic Seaport, the Mystic Aquarium, a tour of the Mashantucket Pequot Indian museum and a trip to the White Hills and Gilford areas of Connecticut to visit sites of Hubbell historic interest. The tour was conducted by retired teacher, historian and family member Ed Coffey.

Important business saw the election of the Class of 2015 Board of Directors, Barbara Kruse, Pete



THFHS President Hilbert R. Hubble

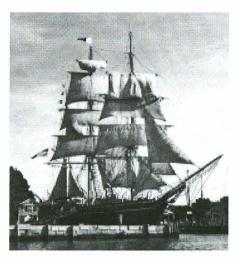
Hansen, Betty Jo Chapman, Myrna Kepford, Karen Hubbell, Roger Hubbell and Robert McGormand. A new treasurer was elected, Jan Fulton will replace Pete Hansen as Society treasurer on 1 January 2010. Pete has earned the thanks and respect of the family for his outstanding performance and innovative approach to the office of treasurer. The formation of digitization committee under the leadership of Bob Dawes will go along way to achieving the goal of digitizing valuable family records. Harvey Hubbell IV, acting president of Hubbell Center has



plans to address the questions of where and how to continue the Center. At the family meeting, the membership separated into groups to discuss improvements to the membership, reunion and publications committees and Hubbell Center. Many valuable suggestions resulted.

A committee for the 2011 reunion at Salt Lake City consists of Jim and Mary Ann Hubbell and Cliff and Nancy Moses with assistance from Margie Hlava. At the banquet, Nancy Moses gave a brief description of what we might expect in the way of research, tours and recreation.

The banquet was addressed by Tricia Cunningham of the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce and Edward Haberek Jr. First Selectman for the town of Stonington who presented keys to the city to reunion committee chairman Elliott Fair and President Hilbert Hubble. Our President congratulated Elliott Fair for a truly wonderful job on this reunion.



The Charles W. Morgan -- Whaling Ship at Mystic Seaport, Connecticut

With little help during the planning phase, he produced a highly successful event. The family celebrated the award of the Grand Prize for Genealogy from the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, for our publication "Hubbell by Choice" accepting the award was Barbara Kruse. Selections for the Hubbell Hall of Fame were announced by Robert D. Hubble. The selectees were Robert James (Camino Bob) Hubbell, Harvey Hubbell IV, Raymond Harry Hubbell, Harold George Hubbell, and Donald Clayton Hubbell.

By any measure, the reunion was a great success and all look forward to 2011.

URGENT! WANTED!

The Society is in immediate need of an EDITOR/PUBLISHER for our family publications. These include the once yearly Annual and the twice yearly Family Notes. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please inform your President Hilbert Hubble at hhubble@comcast.net.

6-Year-Old Helps Rescue Her Mother After Car Crash

Source: *Odessa File* http://www.odessafile.com/people.html

ODESSA, NY, Dec. 15, 2009 — Hannah Hubbell, 6 years old, helped save her mother in the wake of a car crash that occurred at mid-afternoon Sunday, during a freezing rain. The car, a four-door 1998 Mercury Sable driven by Hannah's mother, Holly Hubbell, hit black ice along Route 224 as Holly was driving eastbound between Odessa and Van Etten. It slid off the road, over an embankment and into a tree alongside a pond, coming to rest out of sight of the roadway. Holly was pinned in the car, in and out of consciousness, and seriously injured.

Hannah had been seated in the back on the driver's side of the car — next to a friend named Summer, also 6 — and she was initially stuck, her ankle caught between the floor and the door, where the side of the car had buckled. Hannah managed to wriggle loose, though, and climbed out of the car through a broken window, scrambled up the embankment and flagged down a pickup truck.

Since there was no cell service there, the truck driver raced off to find a residence from which he could call 911, and Hannah returned to the wrecked car, freeing her young friend. Together, they went back up to the road and flagged down more vehicles — the drivers of which kept an eye on them until rescuers could arrive to extricate the mother from the

wreckage.

"I think it's great that such a young girl had the presence of mind to go up to the road and flag down traffic," said Schuyler County Sheriff William Yessman, "and then go back and get her friend out. A heroine? Yes, I would call her that. For a 6-year-old to do something like that and not panic after a traumatic accident — with her mother in pain and unable to get out — is remarkable. Most 6-year-olds would want to stay with their mother."

Once Holly was freed — with help from a Jaws Of Life hydraulic tool brought to the scene by the Odessa Fire Department — she and the girls were transported to Robert Packer Hospital in Sayre. The two young girls were treated and released; Summer had but a scratch, and Hannah a bruised ankle. But Holly was admitted with some serious injuries: 10 broken ribs, a lacerated spleen and a punctured lung. She was still in the Intensive Care Unit Tuesday — but her husband, Robert Hubbell, was hopeful that she might be moved to a regular room by Wednesday.

"We're waiting to see what the spleen wants to do," he said. "If it's healing, then we're on the right track. If it isn't, then they'll have to remove it. They said they'd know in 48 hours, but now they're giving it another day. It's showed signs of improvement, and if it continues to, then they'll move her out of ICU."

He said his wife was in and out of

consciousness during the accident, and thus didn't recall many details. He conceded that the tree that was struck was both a curse and a blessing. It caused the injuries sustained by Holly, but prevented the vehicle from reaching the pond, which could have been worse.

He said he doesn't know who the pickup-truck driver was, but would like to find out so he can thank him for helping.

Robert Hubbell kept his daughters Hannah and Kylee out of school for the two days following the crash, both because of the trauma and to have them with him at the hospital.

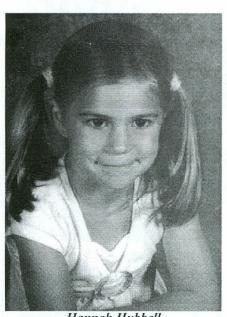
Sheriff Yessman plans to honor Hannah, while he is at the elementary school as part of a Lions Club program during lunchtime. The Sheriff said will present Hannah at that time with a Certificate of Appreciation for the brave and important thing she did — the role she played in helping to save her mother.

Meanwhile, on Tuesday, while keeping an eye on his wife and her progress at Packer Hospital, Robert Hubbell was both anxious about his wife ... and thankful that help had arrived so quickly after the accident.

Was he impressed with Hannah's actions?

"Oh, yes," he said. "I'm a proud father."

(Editor's note: Robert Hubbell is A&R #14814.)



Hannah Hubbell



Blood Drive Honors Jessica Hubbell

Source: GREENE COUNTY DAILY WORLD, Greene County, IN Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Have you ever wanted to make a difference in the life of another person? If so, you'll have the opportunity to do just that on Saturday at a blood drive. From 4-8 p.m., the 10th annual Jessica Hubbell Memorial Blood Drive will take place in Jasonville. The Indiana Blood Center's Blood Mobile will be stationed in the parking lot in front of Criss Insurance.

Hubbell's young life was tragically cut short when she died from head injuries sustained in a car accident Oct. 9, 1999. Hubbell, the daughter of Sharon Brinson Edwards and Barry Hubbell, was member of the Shakamak High School Class of 2000. She was just 17 years old at the time of her death. Hubbell's sister, Samantha (Hubbell) Crane, has organized the memorial blood drive every year since her sister's passing.

"I tried to do something that would bring everyone together on that day and make it something positive," Crane said. "It's been a really positive thing for our family as a whole." Crane, a registered nurse, realizes the importance of donating blood.

"There's a shortage all the time. It's (the shortage of blood) huge," Crane said, noting that her sister received several units of blood while medical professionals attempted to save her.

According to the Indiana Blood Center's Web site, the center donates more than 550 units of blood to more than 60 Indiana hospitals every day. Over the last 10 years, approximately 150 units of blood have been donated through the Jessica Hubbell Memorial Blood Drive, Crane said.

According to the American Red Cross Web site, up to three lives can be saved with just one blood donation. Those who cannot attend the memorial blood drive are encouraged to donate blood at their local Indiana Blood Center.

Another way Hubbell's memory is being honored is through reading. Hubbell's family asked that in lieu of flowers at her funeral, donations be made to the Jasonville Public Library as Hubbell was an avid reader. Crane said \$3,250 was donated in her sister's memory. Those donations went into a CD

"Every year the interest off that CD buys books," she said. So far, more than 120 books have been purchased in Hubbell's memory.

"She just really liked reading," Crane said, noting her sister's love of reading was why her family chose to start a library fund instead of a scholarship fund in her memory.

(Editor's note: Jessica is A&R #14029ii.)

The Hubbell Family Foundation

The Hubbell Family Historical Society celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary in 2006 and has been hugely successful in documenting, preserving and celebrating the history of our family. Since inception, the society has relied on annual donations for operations. Over the years, many Society members have been most generous with their time and resources, but a more permanent fiscal basis is needed to sustain the Society and to provide a vehicle for planned giving and estate planning by Society members.

On June 6, 2008 the Hubbell Foundation Fund was established to support the objectives of The Hubbell Family Historical Society and Hubbell Center. The fund was the idea of James Windsor Hubbell Jr. of Des Moines as a way to ensure that Hubbell Center remains a viable entity and ensure the family record remains intact for future generations. An investment committee, chaired by Peter Hansen and consisting of three members each of THFHS and Hubbell Center made their recommendation for an investment

instrument. Contributions have been received and the fund is invested with The Greater Des Moines Community Foundation.

The Greater Des Moines Community Foundation is a philanthropic foundation that emphasizes fund management and growth of endowments such as The Hubbell Family Foundation. The Greater Des Moines Community Foundation makes use of a variety of fund assets for diversity.

Contributing to the Hubbell Family Foundation is an excellent way for the members to support our society with a permanent gift.

For questions and more information, please write:

Peter Hansen PO Box 1390 Kenai, AK 99611

or via e-mail: pohansen@alaska.net, or phone: 907-283-4615.

Hubbell Runs Long Beach Marathon

Camino Bob (#14814 Robert James) Hubbell's youngest son, Rich, ran the Long Beach Marathon on Sunday, October 11. His motivation is high as he was running the 26.2 miles to raise awareness and funds for the Long Beach Rescue Mission, an official charity of the LB Marathon.

Race Results-

Name: Richard Hubbell

Age: 53

Hometown: Long Beach, CA Overall: 1577 out of 3367 Men: 1102 out of 2061 M 50-54: 109 out of 218

Age/Grade: 52.49% Place: 1316 Finish: 4:33:00 Pace: 10:25

Tag Time: 4:33:00

Gun Time: 4:52:37

Split Times—

10 Km: 58:51 Pace: 9:29 12.9 Mile: 2:02:10 Pace: 9:29 18 Mile: 2:55:50 Pace: 9:47

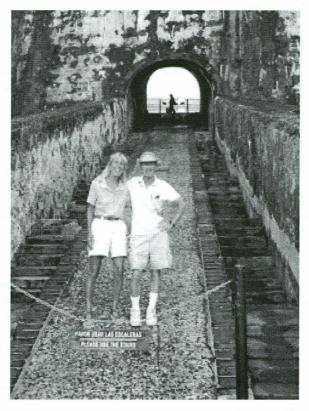
CARIBBEAN CIRCUMNAVIGATION BY SAILBOAT

By Fred Forrest Hubble III

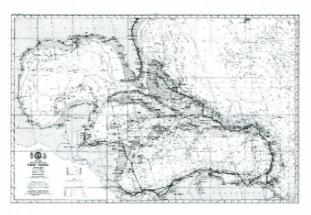
(Fred has nearly completed a circumnavigation of the Caribbean Sea in his 52' sailboat "Sundance". A lifelong sailor, he lost his wife to liver cancer in 2001, and according to him "Nothing that I was doing at the time made sense to me anymore", so after selling his house and most of his possessions, he purchased his present boat in Miami, Florida and moved aboard in late 2003.)

Our shakedown cruise occupied most of 2004 and involved sailing from Miami to Maine and back visiting most of the ports and small harbors along the eastern seaboard. Highlight of the trip was being anchored in Baltimore's Inner Harbor during 4th of July festivities celebrating of the 150th anniversary of the launching of the USS Constellation, which has a permanent berth in the harbor. There were tall ships from many nations in attendance, and the fireworks display that evening was spectacular. A lasting impression of the trip and a pleasant surprise was the rebirth of the waterfronts that was occurring in all the major ports. Older warehousing and other commercial buildings were either being removed for public parks and walkways or renovated into apartments, condominiums, shops, and restaurants thereby creating recreational opportunities and vibrant communities where slums and decaying structures had existed before.

After wintering in Miami, we departed in April 2005 with the goal of being south of latitude 12 by July 1st for the duration of the hurricane season. Our desire was to make as many stops as possible at the islands en route and spend a few days exploring each. This was in fact accomplished with stops in the Bahamas, Turks



Sara and Fred visit a Fort in Puerto Rico



Route Through the Caribbean, Miami to Guatemala



SV Sundance

& Caicos, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, the Spanish, American, and British Virgin Islands, St. Martin, St. Barts, St. Kitts, Martinique, Guadeloupe, St. Vincent, and arriving in Grenada at the end of June.

The French Islands were delightful with their patisseries, good wine, fabulous food, and French culture. Most of the others exhibited a depressing similarity of extreme poverty amongst the majority of the people, who are of African descent. Their ancestors were brought over as slaves to work the sugar plantations, and when sugar beets made the working of sugar cane unprofitable, the plantation owners returned to Europe or America leaving these people to fend for themselves. Having large families has exacerbated the situation and created an embittered, confrontational subset of the populace. Anchoring as we did in sheltered coves and harbors and traveling by ourselves either with rental cars, public transportation, or on foot we were constantly exposed to this. Visitors to the resorts are pretty much insulated from the locals and generally have a very different experience.

We did a lot of hiking, climbed two 4500' peaks, shopped the public markets, sampled local cuisine, went swimming and diving, and experienced great sailing. We were in the tradewinds, which blow east to west 10 to 25 knots every day 365 days per year. Since we were traveling north to south, this made for great sailing conditions.

While in Grenada the tropical storm that became hurricane Dennis passed over us, and we wisely decided the Grenada was a bit too far north to be secure from these storms, and we moved 80 miles further south to Trinidad.

To be continued in the Spring 2010 Family Notes