



# Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

August 2012



The commemoration of the march at Belair Mansion in Bowie, MD. On the left, members of the Maryland Loyalist Brigade and on the right, local ladies meet for a sewing circle at Belair Mansion.

## NHT News

On August 25, the Belair Mansion in Bowie, Maryland hosted their 4th Commemoration of the March event. The Belair Mansion is close to the route of the French wagon train on the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. Belair hosts this military commemoration event each year, but last year was unfortunately cancelled due to weather. The event included troops from the 1st Md. Regiment, Queens Own Loyal Virginians, Maryland Loyalists and the Maryland militia, Dave Fagerburg of the Marchers, Dave Smith as Col. Tench Tilghman, and Dr. Robert Selig gave a talk on the wagon train. The event was capped off by an hour of dancing, called by Bonnie Fairbank and music provided by Ted Borek from the Maryland Militia.

On August 22, Joe accompanied Lanny Patten and Ursula Reed of W3R-PA to a meeting with the Delaware County Historical Society and Widener University at the Delaware County History Museum in Chester, PA. The discussion centered around the NHT in Southeastern Pennsylvania regarding educational and learning programs, museum displays, events, community outreach and potential connections with the business and tourism community.

On August 23, Robert Reyes and Ellen von Karajan of the W3R-MD organized a meeting at the Maryland State Highway Administration in Baltimore to discuss future plans to commemorate the Revolutionary War in Maryland, with a focus on the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. Joe represented the

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NPS, while other attendees included Julie M. Schablitsky, Terry Maxwell, Susan Morrison, and Jeff Buchheit. Research about the Washington-Rochambeau NHT in Maryland is being completed by Dr. Robert Selig, which will provide the foundation of planning efforts. A plan will need to be developed for marking the network of land and water routes in Maryland and we will begin exploring options for developing and financing the planning.

The Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) grant in conjunction with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and Hudson River Valley Greenway has moved into the next phase. The project will design, install, and determine locations for directional signage and wayside exhibits for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT in New York. The Washington-Rochambeau NHT, NPS Harpers Ferry Center, Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, and many local NY partners will work together. The graphics and signage company Pannier has been chosen for the project. On September 17-20, Samantha, Phil, Dr. Selig, the Harpers Ferry Design Center team and the Hudson River Valley Greenway will introduce representatives from Pannier to several chosen sites of the Washington-Rochambeau NHT in the Hudson River Valley.

In response to a request from Acunetta Anderson, National Chair, Benjamin Harrison Society Friends Washington Rochambeau NHT, we have drafted a General Agreement which is under review by our regional partnership office. The draft will be provided to the BH Society Friends Washington Rochambeau NHT for their review in the coming weeks.

Phil Correll has purchased passport stamps for the NHT. Passport stamps for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT are available at the Colonial National Historical Park Visitor Center in Yorktown, VA and we hope to distribute the others at locations along the trail. Please let us know if you are interested in having brochures and the passport stamp at your location.

To tell the story of the Battle off the Capes in Virginia, we are exploring the feasibility of moving the difficult to access commemoration of Admiral DeGrasse at Fort Story to a more prominent location for all to see. Nicole Yancey of the W3R is initiating discussions with Williamsburg regarding trail waysides and marking. Dan Smith, Superintendent of Colonial National Historical Park, has researched past ownership and dedication of the statues. He has found that we are able to move the commemoration, only if a suitable place can be found and we can secure the funds needed. The NHT team will explore options for financial and technical assistance, as well as ways to enhance the NHT statewide.

We would like to compile photos of all Washington-Rochambeau NHT events, past and future. Please send any photos you would like included to Samantha Driscoll at [samantha\\_driscoll@nps.gov](mailto:samantha_driscoll@nps.gov). You can register for a free Flickr account. Once registered, you will be able to comment on all photos. We ask your help in using the comment section to caption the images and tell more about the place, people, or event!

**Please see photos of past events at:**

**<http://www.flickr.com/photos/washington-rochambeau/>**



# Upcoming Events

## **Washington-Rochambeau NHT Commemorative Event in Marcus Hook, PA**

**Sept 1, 2012**

On September 1, an event commemorating the Washington-Rochambeau NHT will take place in Marcus Hook, PA. Phil will join the W3R-US and the W3R-PA in celebrating the NHT with a talk by historian Joe Becton.

## **SAR Norfolk Chapter's "Battle off the Virginia Capes" Luncheon Meeting in Virginia Beach, VA**

**September 8, 2012**

The Norfolk Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will hold their annual "Battle off the Virginia Capes" Luncheon meeting on Saturday, September 8. The event will be at 11am at the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and is \$30 per person. The topic of discussion will be the Battle off the Capes of 1781 and the historical importance of Lynnhaven Bay. If you are interested in attending, please visit [www.norfolkchapter.org](http://www.norfolkchapter.org) for more information or contact SAR Norfolk Chapter President, Dr. Matt Hogendobler, at 757-481-1144. Superintendent Dan Smith of Colonial National Historical Park will attend on behalf of the National Park Service.

## **9/11 Memorial Dedication in Philadelphia, PA**

**September 11, 2012**

The Schuylkill River Development Corporation (SRDC) will dedicate a Philadelphia Memorial to those who perished on September 11th 2001. The event will be held Tuesday September 11th, 2012, at 1pm. The memorial is along the 911 Trail, which overlaps with the Schuylkill River Trail, the East Coast Greenway and the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail. The dedication will be located where Chestnut Street crosses the Trail and the Schuylkill River. All are invited to attend.

## **Fall Encampment and Performance of Addison's Cato in Princeton, NJ September 28-30, 2012**

The Princeton Battlefield Society will offer a unique weekend of programming consisting of living history and tactical demonstrations by Revolutionary War units coupled with a performance of Joseph Addison's Cato. American and British units are invited to partake in demonstrations of camp life and military tactics, which will include reenacting elements of the January 1777 battle on the same ground upon which the original soldiers fought. PBS will host the Princeton University Theater Company's performance of Cato on the evening of Saturday, September 29th, which will take place on the edge of the battlefield. This play was a favorite of George Washington and a popular piece in contemporary theatres. The themes of Cato were widely discussed and often quoted during the Revolution. The Play will be open to the public and reenactors alike. Attendees are expected to provide their own rations. PBS will provide standard amenities for participants. <http://www.facebook.com/events/292603674132823/>



## **The Rochambeau Ramble historic tour in Hartsdale, NY September 29, 2012**

Walk a wooded trail to the historic Odell House property, which served as headquarters for French General Rochambeau for 6 weeks in 1781, with Washington's army camped nearby. Tour the grounds, and hear about the ongoing study of the Philipsburg Encampment, which preceded the famous Franco-American march to the siege of Yorktown, VA. The tour begins at 1:30 pm at the Odell House/Rochambeau HQ of 1781, Ridge Road County Park, Hartsdale, NY 10530

Check out page 14, item #23 for more information:

[http://issuu.com/luminarypublishing/docs/hvramble2012\\_r?mode=window&backgroundcolor#222222](http://issuu.com/luminarypublishing/docs/hvramble2012_r?mode=window&backgroundcolor#222222)

Register by phone or email by September 26 by contacting Frank Jazzo at 914-993-1641 or [fsjazz2004@yahoo.com](mailto:fsjazz2004@yahoo.com).

## **Pennsylvania Historical Marker Dedication at the Pennypack Creek Bridge**

**October 13, 2012**

Join the W3R-PA, Holmesburg Civic Association, Friends of Pennypack Park, and the NE Philadelphia History Network in celebrating the Pennypack Creek Bridge, built in 1697 and America's oldest stone arch bridge still in continuous use! Come learn about the Pennypack Creek Bridge's role in Native American, colonial, and Revolutionary War history. School and Community groups are invited and encouraged to join in the celebration. The event will run from 9 am to 3 pm at Pennypack Park, located at Frankford Ave & Solly Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19136. For more information please visit <http://www.pennypackbridge.com/> or contact [pennypackbridge@gmail.com](mailto:pennypackbridge@gmail.com) or 215-624-6614.

## ***NPS: A Call to Action***

The National Park Service is nearing its 100th Anniversary in 2016. National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis has announced A Call to Action to move the NPS into a new century. A Call to Action calls for creative and innovative ways to interpret, experience, communicate, protect, and educate the parks, trails, sites, and resources of the National Park Service.

See the plan A Call to Action at:  
[http://inside.nps.gov/calltoaction/pdf/C2A\\_report.pdf](http://inside.nps.gov/calltoaction/pdf/C2A_report.pdf)

### **The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail will work with communities along the route to:**

- Reach new audiences to tell the story of Generals Washington and Rochambeau, the allied armies, and the people impacted by this event
- Connect the national, state, local parks, trails, heritage areas, and greenways on the route and add cultural resource preservation and interpretation to the natural and recreation resources along the route
- Offer rich, interactive, up-to-date content in a user-friendly web platform that supports online and mobile technology including social media



## We've gone digital!

Please visit the official NPS website for the  
Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail:

**[www.nps.gov/waro](http://www.nps.gov/waro)**

'Like' us on Facebook to stay up-to-date on all Washington-Rochambeau NHT news:

**<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Washington-Rochambeau-Revolutionary-Route-National-Historic-Trail/126419804105006>**

## Online Tourism Guide for the NHT

The NPS website section called, "Things to Do," will act as a tourism guide to the NHT where potential tourists will be able to select the state in which they are planning to travel, and view a list of sites and destinations along the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. **We ask your help in telling us which sites you would like to see included from your state!**

The sites should be **open to the public**, and can be federal, state, local, non-profit, or privately owned. They should have some connection thematically to the NHT (18th century, the War for Independence, historical figures, etc.) and/or the site could be a natural/scenic or recreational area that visitors may enjoy along the way. The site must fall along, or be reasonably close to, the route of the NHT. To be included, the site must have a website to which we can link. Please send your list of destinations and their corresponding websites directly to Samantha Driscoll at [samantha\\_driscoll@nps.gov](mailto:samantha_driscoll@nps.gov).

## Google Maps of the NHT Auto Route

The NPS website is now up and running, allowing us to have a more accessible format for the Google Maps of the NHT Auto Route. Please follow this link to the 'Directions' page of the NPS site:

<http://www.nps.gov/waro/planyourvisit/directions.htm>

Our 'Directions' page has a link for each state of the National Historic Trail. Click on the state and you will be directed to the Google Maps.



# Announcements

## **National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program 2012 Grant Awards**

More than \$1.3 million in National Park Service grants will be used to help preserve, protect, document, and interpret America's significant battlefield lands. The funding from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) will support 27 projects at more than 75 battlefields nationwide. This year's grants provide funding for projects at endangered battlefields from the Pequot War, King William's War, the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, World War II and various Indian Wars. Awards were given to projects in 17 states or territories entailing archeology, mapping, cultural resource survey work, documentation, planning, education and interpretation. Priority was given to those groups submitting applications for nationally significant battlefields.

We have checked the 2007 American Battlefield Protection Program Report to Congress for sites associated with the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. We are happy to report the Washington-Rochambeau Route is listed as a Class A "road, trail, and waterway needing further study." The associated site of the Chesapeake Capes is listed as a Class A "naval and maritime site needing further study" as well as a Class A "battlefield needing further study." There are various battlefields, locations of altercations, and historic sites along the Washington-Rochambeau NHT which may qualify for a 2013 Battlefield Preservation Grant.

Please contact us to discuss projects, sites, or proposals that you think may qualify. We would be happy to assist and support you in preparing an application. To learn more about this very important opportunity, please visit: <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/abpp/>

### **Trail Tracks Monthly e-Newsletter**

Trail Tracks is a monthly e-Newsletter with links to [www.AmericanTrails.org](http://www.AmericanTrails.org), one of the world's most comprehensive online resources for planning, designing, building, funding, managing, and enhancing trails and greenways. They also bring you news from the halls of Congress, new studies and resources, interesting articles, events, and training opportunities.

See it here: [http://www.americantrails.org/enewsletter/enews\\_2010\\_july.html](http://www.americantrails.org/enewsletter/enews_2010_july.html)

### **Webinar "The Third Mode: Connecting Greenways, Trails and Active Mobility"**

On September 12th there is a webinar titled "The Third Mode: Connecting Greenways, Trails and Active Mobility" Jeff Olson, partner with Alta Planning + Design, Andy Clarke, president of the League of American Bicyclists, and Bob Searns who will moderate the webinar, will be the presenters and are very much looking forward to it! This webinar will be the national launch event for Jeff's new book "The Third Mode: Towards a Green Society" and the first 100 people to sign up for the webinar will receive a free digital copy of the book.

See more information here: <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/trans/webinar-book-third-mode.html>