



# Washington-Rochambeau

## Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

August 2013



## News Along the Trail

As you know, the budget situation has had an impact on the NPS nationwide and we are experiencing the effects on the NHT. As we announced last month, we will not be able to renew Samantha Driscoll's term position as Preservation Planner for the NHT. Samantha has been with the Washington-Rochambeau NHT since 2010, and has done an outstanding job for the NHT and the NPS. We are happy to announce this month that she has found a new job. She'll be starting work with the Pennsylvania Environmental Council here in Philadelphia in early September and we are sure to see her out on the trails in her new role as Program Manager.

Phil Correll developed and executed a new cooperative agreement between the NPS and the W3R®-US. This new agreement will allow us to continue cooperative partnership activities for the next five years. Individual task agreements will be put in place as funding and opportunities become available. The first will be for a Connect Trails to Parks project that will enable us to develop a searchable database using GIS and future applications. Phil also helped W3R®-US establish them in the federal System for Award Management (SAM) so we can begin processing payments on the FY 2010 Challenge Cost Share Program project.



Joe DiBello and Ursula Reed, Chair of the W3R®-US

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Nicole Yancey, the NHT liaison in Virginia, has initiated discussions with the state and communities to introduce the NHT and explore its use as a connector and tourism promotion tool. We contacted staff at VADCNR, VDOT, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation to discuss possibilities of linking Revolutionary War sites along the corridor in the state. We are working with the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail to review plans for Route 1 and coordinate signs and displays at Mason Neck and Meadowood in Virginia.

Janet Burnett (W3R®-US Vice Chair, W3R-NY Director, Highlands Coalition and active participant in numerous other activities in the Hudson Valley) is coordinating the First annual Washington –Rochambeau Regatta. Hon. Maurice Hinchey has accepted her invitation to the Washington-Rochambeau Regatta and name the Washington-Rochambeau cup in his honor (as the Hinchey Cup). He plans to attend the regatta and the reception on September 22. The two days of fun and history starts Saturday, September 21, with shoreline activities celebrating the Town of Ossining Bicentennial. On Sunday, September 22, speeches in inauguration of the First Annual Washington-Rochambeau Regatta begin at 11 am. The boats will be departing from the Ossining waterfront led by the Sloop Clearwater 12 noon for Haverstraw. The Regatta will be followed by a Reception 2-4 pm at the Hudson Water Club at Haverstraw Marina. RSVP is required, please call Janet Burnet 845-323-7962 or email janetburnet@aol.com. For more information on all events, visit [www.hudsonrising.com](http://www.hudsonrising.com) or [www.celebrateossining.com](http://www.celebrateossining.com).

Robert Reyes informed us that there is a postmark cancellation available commemorating the Treaty of Paris which was signed on September 3, 1783 which formally ended the American Revolution. Robert is coming to Philadelphia to use the postmark and see the newly re-opened National Park Service Ben Franklin Museum. See the stamp below.



The wayside exhibit program for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT in New York is moving ahead. See the map on the website here: <http://www.nps.gov/waro/parknews/index.htm>. The updated schedule has a tentative date for the wayside exhibits to be ready in the early months of 2014. In preparation for this, Phil Correll is developing a general agreement for each of the fifteen destinations on the placement and installation of the outdoor wayside exhibits. We are reviewing draft panels and hope to have them available soon for your review soon.



We recently received an inquiry about the location of 1781 and 1782 encampments near the English Farm and former Bullion Tavern in New Jersey. In response, we put together an information sheet. See the information sheet here: <http://www.nps.gov/waro/parknews/index.htm>.

Joe prepared two Collaborative Landscape Conservation proposals in partnership with local interests that identify priority future projects aimed at preserving resources related to the NHT. The first is to protect a Revolutionary War Cemetery in Fishkill, New York. The other is to protect an encampment site in Abingdon which is in Harford County, Maryland. We hope these proposals bring some attention to the needs at these sites and help lead to collaborative conservation action.

## Updates on the NHT

Planning is critical to the future of the NHT, particularly in the ever-changing environment we face. Many of you have participated in the early phases of our strategic planning effort, and we have begun the next phase, which is what we call the Foundation Document. Building on the earlier efforts, this document will provide a base or foundation for future planning and action. With the leadership and help of Allen Cooper, Chief of Planning, and Peter Iris-Williams, Planner, both with the NPS Northeast Regional Office, we have developed a draft purpose statement, significance statements, and themes. We are holding a series of collaborative work sessions and we hope to share written material with you soon.

Speaking of planning ahead, 2025-2033 will mark the 250th Anniversary of America's War for Independence. The American Revolution is a national and international story that has broad educational and tourism interest. The Washington-Rochambeau NHT not only highlights an important revolutionary event, but can also serve as a connection or link to NPS units, heritage areas, state and local parks, trails, recreation areas, museums, and many outstanding natural resources along the way. We can work together and plan ahead to create a spectacular commemoration. Let us know if you are interested in hosting or participating in a discussion about this.

We are continuing to move ahead cautiously in these times of reductions and constraints. We are working to develop partnerships, to get the word out about the NHT and to diversify the source of funds to help finance and carry out trail related projects and initiatives. Please let us know if you have suggestions or know of opportunities for us to work together.



# 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 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.

## **Website and Google Maps of the NHT**

With the NPS website now up and running, [www.nps.gov/waro](http://www.nps.gov/waro), the Google maps of the NHT auto route are more accessible. Please follow this link to the 'Directions' page of the NPS site and click on the desired state.

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

Like' us on Facebook to stay up-to-date on all NHT news!

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



# Items of Interest

## Urban Matters - Share your experience

Join the conversation and share your ideas for defining the National Park Service's urban agenda including "Urban Innovations" to focus on developing strategies for the NPS to be more effective and relevant in urban centers and "Economic Revitalization in Urban Areas" to help NPS play a critical role in the economic revitalization efforts of urban centers across the country to tap into non-traditional sources of funding to sustain programs and operations. See more at: [https://sites.google.com/site/urbannps/urban-agenda?utm\\_source=2013+second+quarter&utm\\_campaign=NHA+Quarterly+news+letter&utm\\_medium=email](https://sites.google.com/site/urbannps/urban-agenda?utm_source=2013+second+quarter&utm_campaign=NHA+Quarterly+news+letter&utm_medium=email).

## The Surprising ROI of Trails

Trails do not have to be in the middle of nowhere, connecting communities. Trails can be, and often are, in the middle of communities connecting neighborhoods, parks, business districts, and the countryside. PTA and Rails to Trails explains the benefits of investing in trails, and describes successful efforts in several cities. <http://www.transportationissuesdaily.com/the-surprising-roi-of-trails/>

## 2013 Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Program Applications due Friday, September 13, 2013

The Hudson River Valley Greenway announces the availability of \$50,000 in matching grants for the 2013 Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Program. Grants will range from \$1,000 to \$20,000. The program offers funding for trail projects, including planning and design, construction and rehabilitation, and education and interpretation. Applications can be downloaded from the Greenway website at <http://www.hudsongreenway.ny.gov/GrantFunding/ConservancyGrant.aspx> or requested by calling (518) 473-3835 or emailing the Greenway at [hrvg@hudsongreenway.ny.gov](mailto:hrvg@hudsongreenway.ny.gov).

## Cultural Resources Geographic Information System Re-launch

In PA, there was the August 2013 re-launch of the Cultural Resources Geographic Information System (CRGIS). For the last nine months the CRGIS staff has been working closely with PennDOT's development team from Computer Aid, Inc. (CAI) to make major changes to the CRGIS and AskReGIS system. <https://www.dot7.state.pa.us/ce/Application/ASP/Security/Index.asp>

## Author Jini Jones Vail at the Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum

On Sept. 19, the Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum, 211 Main St. Wethersfield, CT, will host a presentation by Jini Jones Vail, the author of *Rochambeau, Washington's Ideal Lieutenant, A French General's Role in the American Revolution*. The lecture begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be preceded by a wine reception (by donation) at 6 p.m. and followed by a book signing. <http://www.courant.com/community/wethersfield/hcrs-77569-wethersfield-20130717,0,961155.story>



## **The Yorktown Victory Center's Revolutionary War Lecture Series**

**September 14:** "To, Through, and Beyond Virginia," by James C. Kelly

**September 28:** "The Tyranny of the People': A Loyalist Perspective on the American Revolution," by Holger Hooch

**October 5:** "Painters and Paintings in the Early American South: 1735-1800," by Carolyn J. Weekley

The Yorktown Victory Center's Revolutionary War lecture series returns this year with guest scholars speaking at 7 p.m. Saturdays, September 14 and 28 and October 5, in the museum's Richard S. Reynolds Foundation Theater. Admission to the lectures is free, and advance reservations are recommended by calling (757) 253-4572 or e-mailing [rsvp@jyf.virginia.gov](mailto:rsvp@jyf.virginia.gov). The series is supported with private donations to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc.

### **"The Men Who Lost America" An Evening with Historian Andrew Jackson O'Shaughnessy**

**Wednesday, October 2, 2013 7:30pm, Philadelphia**

The author evaluates the role of British leadership in the outcome of the Revolutionary War. It was a war that Britain seemingly should have won as a major military power. It is therefore commonly assumed that failure must have been due to the incompetence of the commanders and the politicians who are ridiculed in fiction and in movies. Although less crudely presented, such caricatures even permeate scholarly literature. The talk will challenge the stereotypes and offer a very different explanation of why Britain lost the American War of Independence. See more at: <http://menwholostamerica.eventbrite.com/>

### **Washington and Rochambeau in Liberty's Kids Episode #36 "Yorktown"**

Liberty's Kids is an animated educational historical fiction television series originally broadcast on PBS Kids from 2002 to 2003. The following links will take you to Part 1 and Part 2 of Episode #36 entitled, "Yorktown." The Washington-Rochambeau NHT is explained in conjunction with the siege of Yorktown, resulting in a very entertaining cartoon!*EPISODE 36: "Yorktown"*

PART ONE: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzAyaPP95zw>

PART TWO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBCdzPtfVdU>

### **The Rochambeau Family in Philadelphia**

In October, we expect a visit from the Rochambeau family to Philadelphia. They will be in Philadelphia for a few days and departing from here to the celebrations, events, and meetings. The Rochambeau family will attend the Yorktown Day celebrations on October 19. Please contact Ursula Reed, Chairperson, W3R-US and Nicole Yancey, W3R-US Liaison to France for more information.