



Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail June 2013



W3R®-US Board Meeting
Photo by Lanny Patten, Chair of W3R-PA

News Along the Trail

Joe DiBello attended the National Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, Inc. (W3R®-US) Board meeting on Saturday June 15 at the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center (FWWIC) in Philadelphia, **Pennsylvania** to provide an update on NHT planning and an update on the cooperative agreement and future working arrangements between the NPS and W3R®-US. This meeting was followed by a presentation by Alan R. Hoffman, Esq., President of the American Friends of Lafayette (AFL) and translator of Auguste Levasseur's "Lafayette in America in 1824 and 1825, Journal of a Voyage to the United States." He spoke on the topic: "Lafayette visits Philadelphia and the Fairmount Water Works 1824 – 1825: Odyssey of an American Idol" and the little-known stop on his famous tour. The AFL was in Philadelphia for a 3 day conference. Saturday's FWWIC post-conference event was sponsored by the American Friends of Lafayette (www.lafayetteinamerica.com) and the W3R®-US (www.w3r-us.org), its W3R PA Chapter, and the NPS (www.nps.gov/waro).

Phil Correll is assisting the W3R®-US establish themselves in the federal System for Award Management (SAM) so we can begin processing payments on the FY 2010 Challenge Cost Share Program project. Phil has also developed

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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.

Joe DiBello and Samantha Driscoll attended a conference entitled “The American Revolution Reborn: New Perspectives for the 21st Century” held in Philadelphia May 30-June 1. The conference, organized by the University of **Pennsylvania**, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, and the Museum of the American Revolution with the support of the American Philosophical Society, the David Library of the American Revolution, Frank Fox, and others. Over 150 people joined in the discussions. The research papers were available for reading prior to the conference. Researchers then made brief presentations on their papers as part of a panel, and most of the sessions were opened for discussions. For more information, please visit www.mceas.org/revolution.

Tickets are on sale for the Alpine Basin Sails on the Majestic A.J. Meerwald on July 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st. Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area in **New Jersey** is again cosponsoring a series of cruises on the beautiful Hudson River. This is a great opportunity to view the majestic Palisades or tour the Raritan Bay from the deck of a magnificently restored 1928 two-masted, 115-foot oyster schooner driven by over 3,500 square feet of sail. The event webpage is: <http://www.revolutionarynj.org/event/a-j-meerwald-sails-cruises-on-the-hudson-river/>

A site cleanup is being conducted by E.I. DuPont De Nemours & Company in Pompton Lakes and Wanaque, **New Jersey**. A Preassessment Screen for the site is being pursued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and includes at least \$5,000 to be used by the NPS to assess Washington-Rochambeau NHT resources and related Revolutionary War resources in the area. Samantha Driscoll developed a proposed scope of work for the resource assessment which will be submitted for consideration.

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 also working with Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail to review plans for Route 1 and coordinate signs and displays at Mason Neck and Meadowood in Virginia.

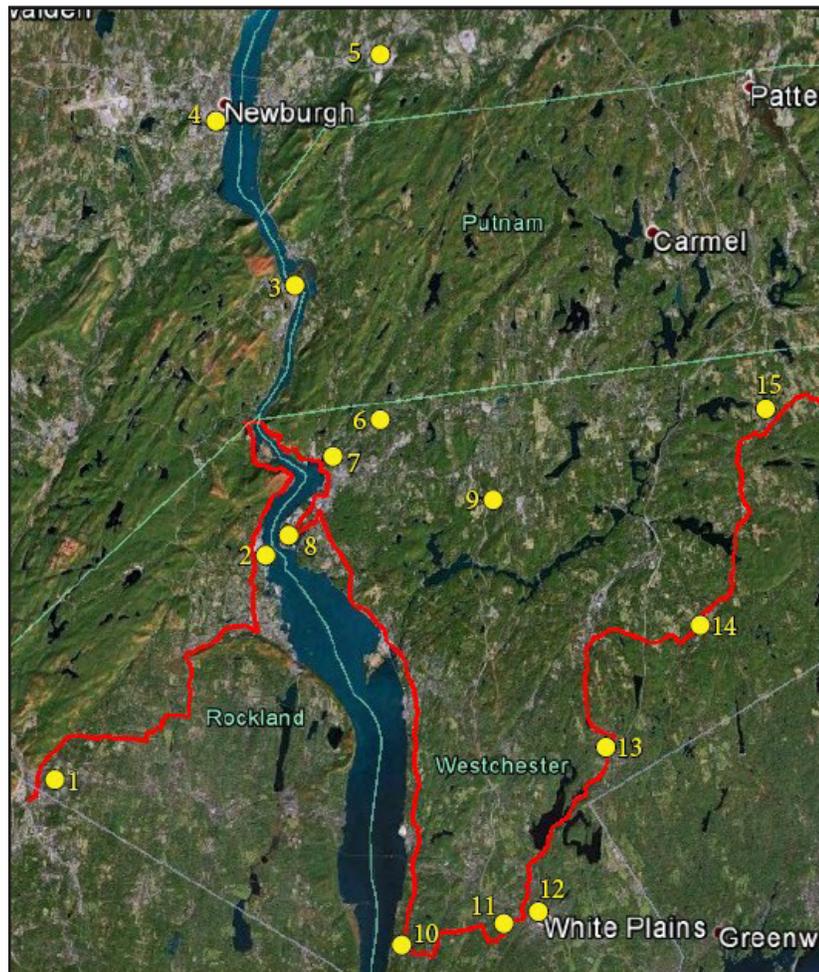
In July we expect word on two American Revolution Grant Applications that were submitted to the National Park Service’s American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) for **Virginia** sites. One by Gloucester County, Virginia’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism seeking funding to evaluate resources associated with Gloucester Point, Virginia and the 1781 Battle of the Hook. The other by the Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Department focused on the 1781 Battle off the Capes. Both the Gloucester Point Battle of the Hook and



the Chesapeake Bay Battle off the Capes were critical to the siege of Yorktown that resulted in the surrender of Lord Cornwallis and ultimately American Independence.

A meeting was held at Battery Park, **New York** City on June 26th, hosted by the Hudson River Foundation and Clay Hiles and organized by Janet Burnett (W3R®-US Vice Chair, W3R-NY Director, Highlands Coalition and active participant in numerous other activities in the Hudson Valley). We discussed the many activities and events occurring in the Mid-Hudson and Hudson River Estuary and identified opportunities for working together on landscape conservation initiatives, incorporating heritage and history in our work and enhancing opportunities for citizen and community connections, experience and tourism associated with the region's outstanding natural, cultural, and recreational resources. Joe DiBello attended for the NHT, and Commissioner Joshua Laird and Giles Parker, Chief of Staff of the National Parks of New York Harbor, are looped in to the discussions.

The wayside exhibit program for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT in **New York** is moving ahead. See the map below or view the full document 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.



Washington-Rochambeau NHT Wayside Locations in New York



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 weekly series of collaborative work sessions that are moving along briskly. The process has been energizing and interactive. We will share written material with you and look forward to continuing the process with you.

We are undertaking a GIS project that will expand the NHT auto route map to include walking, biking, boating, kayaking, and transit routes. We will create additional information layers to show the location of National Parks, National Trails, National Landmarks, National Register sites, National Monuments, Heritage Areas, state parks, and local parks that are related to the NHT. Our goal is to go digital and create an interactive feature that will connect the places and make all of this information easily accessible. Samantha Driscoll will be managing this project so please contact her if you have any questions or suggestions.

We are continuing 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. Each year the National Park Service plans and projects its needs for project funding in the coming five years. This year's Servicewide Comprehensive Call was for projects being requested primarily for FY 2015 through FY 2019. The Washington-Rochambeau NHT team submitted a total of twenty-two proposed projects valued at over \$3 million. Some projects require matching funds from supporters of the NHT. The projects include developing management and interpretive plans for the overall NHT; completing resource studies for each state; individual state brochures; development of a way-finding sign system; creating an overall Washington-Rochambeau NHT guidebook and documentary film; developing cell phone tours; and supporting state and national events and preservation activities.

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.



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

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, 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

W3R®-Delaware event in the news!

Check out this article featuring the May 9th W3R®-Delaware event with the Alliance Francaise Delaware, the Delaware Military Academy, and the French Embassy Consul General, Monsieur Oliver Serot Almeras. The event paid tribute to the French Cavalry, "Lauzun's Legion", who were stationed in Wilmington, Delaware during the 1782-1783 time period. The Legion was positioned there following the battle of Yorktown to protect Philadelphia from any possible British fleet attack. This marks the 230th anniversary of the Cavalry departure in May of 1783.

http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20130528/NEWS/305280049/Revolutionary-War-trail-honors-Delaware-s-French-connection?gcheck=1&nclick_check=1



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>

Need Some Help from NPS? Check out the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)

Do you have an idea for a local conservation and outdoor recreation project, but need assistance to move that vision into reality? The mission of the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) is to assist community-led natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation initiatives. RTCA staff provide guidance to communities so they can conserve waterways, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways.

RTCA staff can help support trails, parks, and heritage areas with key opportunities to partner on community-based conservation and recreation projects. They help meet NPS Call to Action goals for engaging youth (#2), connecting parks and communities (#4), working in under-served communities (#5), improving access to water resources and recreational paddling opportunities (#11), and furthering landscape conservation (#22).

If you are interested in exploring joint projects related to the NHT, please let us know and contact David Lange, NER RTCA Program Manager, at david_alange@nps.gov or 215-597-6477 or contact one of his field staff to start an application for assistance. Applications from community partners for FY14 assistance are due August 1, 2013.

A Philadelphia 4th of July at the Powel House

The Museum of the American Revolution is pleased to partner with Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks to promote July 4 activities at the Powel House, an elegant 18th century townhouse located just steps from Independence Hall at 244 S. Third Street, Philadelphia. Join in the fun with tours, music, cocktails, and BBQ. A prize will be awarded for best period costume.

The event is 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., including an open house with guided tours (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and cocktails and BBQ (3 p.m. to 6 p.m.) Cost is \$25/person donation or a \$50/person donation which includes Membership at Individual Sponsorship Level. For more information, or to RSVP, call 215-925-2251.