

August 2010 Highlights of NPS Activities for the Washington–Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail based on the report by Joseph DiBello, Superintendent

Tour of the Virginia Routes: On August 10-12, Joe DiBello and Samantha Driscoll were joined by Dr. Robert Selig for a tour of the Virginia Routes. Dr. Selig graciously donated his time to the effort. They visited Prince William Forest Park with Superintendent Vidal Martinez and his team and with Superintendent Dan Smith and his team at Colonial National Historical Park to coordinate activities. They also visited Mt Vernon, Williamsburg and numerous towns along the route including Alexandria, Fredericksburg, Gloucester and Bowling Green. There are a number of newly placed markers along the route in Virginia. They plan to visit in October for the W3R annual meeting and Yorktown Day, a celebration to commemorate the 229th anniversary of America's climactic Revolutionary War victory at Yorktown.

2011 March to Yorktown: On August 27, Joe DiBello met with "The Marchers" in Philadelphia as they conducted their pre-planning for their tour in 2011. They hope NPS will be able to support their efforts, provide brochures, pins, etc. and other items they can share with the public to build awareness and provide information about the NHT.

Cooperative Agreements: Joe DiBello and Samantha Driscoll drafted a cooperative agreement and presented the agreement to the W3R-US for their review and consideration. The initial funds are being provided through the FY10 National Trails Challenge Cost Share Program and will be matched by local sponsors. They can be used to support projects such as community events, developing educational materials and conducting research projects related to the NHT. On August 28, Joe and Samantha met with Sallie de Barsca, Chairman, Carl Nittinger, Treasurer and Tom Reed of W3R. W3R priorities at this time include signage for the trail in all states, brochures in visitor facilities, developing educational programs and using GIS for mapping and tours. There will be further discussions at the annual meeting in October.

With the help of Peggy Wall at the Chesapeake Bay Office of the NPS Joe and Samantha also entered into a cooperative agreement with Preservation Maryland to conduct research and to document the Washington – Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail sites and routes in Maryland using the same source of funds as above.

W3R-NHT Brochure: Harper's Ferry Center and their contractors (McKnight Design) prepared for our review a first draft of the National Historic Trail brochure for the W3R-NHT and Joe DiBello provided initial comments. It looks tremendous for a first draft and it was done in record time. Dianne Liggett, HFC writer/editor, passed on the comments. The revised draft will be distributed for a review by a larger group of stakeholders.

W3R-NHT Logo: Efforts towards developing a National Historic Trail logo continue. NPS Harpers Ferry Center has developed some ideas for the NHT logo based on NPS guidelines, Ralph Nelson assembled some ideas using the W3R logo and Samantha Driscoll designed a logo for the NHT that incorporates elements of both. We have developed a brief report summarizing efforts to date. Please contact Joe DiBello if you would like to have a look at the logo designs under consideration.

Tour of the Maryland Routes: On August 31, Joe attended a meeting in Havre de Grace, Maryland to discuss the W3R-NHT and to take a tour of the route in Maryland with Robert Reyes and Dr. Robert Selig. They visited the site of an encampment which has remained much as it was in colonial times. The day ended with an evening meeting in Baltimore hosted by Preservation Maryland, where Dr. Selig spoke about the W3R-NHT and its importance to Maryland, asking participants to contribute any information they have as he conducts his upcoming study.

Summary of 2010 Strategic Workshops: Joe and Samantha drafted a summary of the strategic workshops held in New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Washington DC earlier in the year. This summary and the results of subsequent discussions will be used as the foundation for future strategic planning efforts. We will share a copy with W3R-US and then incorporate broader public input as we move into a more detailed planning process.

General Information on Grants

- The **National Park Foundation** has announced that applications are now being accepted for its 2010 impact grants. The deadline is October 1st. The National Park Foundation recognizes that sometimes the smallest grants can make the largest differences. The impact grants, with awards of \$10,000 or less, are designed to help parks that need small amounts of additional funding to strengthen the efforts of local partnerships or turn underfunded and innovative ideas into successful projects. The National Park Foundation is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications from ALL National Park System units, affiliated areas, regional, service and program offices, National Heritage Areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Historic Landmarks and National Trails to participate in all National Park Foundation grant programs. Although applications must be submitted by a National Park Service staff person, successful parks may direct a grant to a partner organization for a collaborative project.

To download the Request for Proposals (RFP) go to
http://www.nps.gov/partnerships/Impact_Grants_RFP_080510.pdf (55.6k)

- **The 1772 Foundation** will accept one-page letters of inquiry via their website -- www.1772foundation.org/. The deadline is April 1, 2011. Invited sites will be notified by April 15, 2011, via email to submit a full application. Deadline for full applications: June 25, 2011. Grant notification: July 2011 Grants are for the following focus areas:
 - **African-American History** In partnership with the Northeast Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the 1772 Foundation offers up to \$350,000 in construction grants to African American sites.
 - **Matching Grants for Historic Preservation in NJ, CT, RI (Grant SBK2011)** In cooperation with the New Jersey Historic Trust, the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, and Preserve Rhode Island, the 1772 Foundation will make 1:1 matching grants of up to \$15,000 for the following historic preservation projects: exterior painting, security and fire detection systems, roof and window restoration, sill repair/replacement, and chimney re-pointing.

The New National Trails System Map and Guide now includes the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route as a National Historic Trail, and includes new National Scenic Trails in New England, Arizona, and the Pacific Northwest. If you would like copies of the guide, please e-mail Samantha at Samantha_Driscoll@nps.gov or call her at 215-597-2334.

Article on the W3R-NHT: *Pathways*, a newsletter recently issued by the Partnership for the National Trails System, includes an article about the Washington- Rochambeau Revolutionary Route co-authored by Dr. Robert Sleig and Joe DiBello. An e-version of the article is posted at www.w3r-us.org/pdf/pntsart2010.pdf. We will have the more attractive and colorful hard copy version available for distribution in the near future.