



## **Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail**

### *Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route News January 2011*

The National Park Service, along with all other federal agencies, awaits final action by Congress on the FY 2011 appropriation bill. We are operating under a continuing resolution. The President's FY2011 request provides sufficient funds to maintain visitor services in all areas and enhance services in a few. The FY 2012 budget is being formulated at this time by an Administration determined to put our Nation on sound fiscal footing. Although we are operating under a continuing resolution and facing an uncertain future, we are thinking and planning ahead and are preparing proposals for work that needs to be completed in future years. These include proposals for completing and printing the brochure, comprehensive planning and mapping of the trail. Given the uncertain and competitive funding situation, we will be seeking help and funds from a variety of sources within and outside of the NPS.

Joe and Samantha drafted a strategic plan and summary of the strategic workshops held last year. We will use the plan and summary of the workshops as the foundation for future strategic planning efforts and will incorporate broader public input as we move into a more detailed planning process. If you would like to review and comment on the draft please e-mail Samantha at [Samantha\\_Driscoll@nps.gov](mailto:Samantha_Driscoll@nps.gov) or call 215- 597-2334 and we will send you a copy. It is also posted on the W3R-US web site [http://www.w3r-us.org/aa\\_setframes.htm](http://www.w3r-us.org/aa_setframes.htm)

Samantha is undertaking an inventory of sites and possible tourism destinations along the full length of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. We have also been consulting the *Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites*, multiple websites, and the state focused historical reports by Dr. Selig. We hope to categorize the sites by national, state, local or municipal management and ownership and also identify sites owned and managed by private organizations. The information collected will hopefully then be translated into Geographic Information System (GIS) maps.

Carolyn Suffern of the W3R-US has developed a spreadsheet that will be used for tracking and reporting the many volunteer hours dedicated citizens are putting towards this effort. We in NPS are grateful for all you do and we hope you will report your valuable contribution of time.

Kim Burdick (W3R-US) created a Facebook site that has dozens of photos of activities that the W3R-US supported or coordinated during the past decade. Visitors to the site have added

comments and photos. The W3R-US Facebook site is open to Facebook members only. If you are already a Facebook member the link below will take you to that site. If you are not a Facebook member the link will take you to a page where you may register for membership on Facebook. There is no fee for membership, and the information required to register is minimal.

[Facebook site for W3R-US](#)

On January 10, 2011, Acquinetta Anderson National Chairman of the National Friends & Society of the W3R-NHT and Chairman of the W3R-DC hosted a conference call on Strategic Planning and asked Joe DiBello to discuss the Strategic Plan. The Trail Superintendent discussed the vision, mission and key objectives based on the input received to date. Additional opportunities will be provided as the planning process progresses. Carolyn Suffern, Janet Burnett, W3R-NY, Jim Raleigh W3R-NJ and Vice-Chair of the National Washington- Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, Inc. (W3R-US), Bill Conley, Chairman of the W3R-DE and Mary Margaret, W3R-MD participated.

Joe DiBello attended a Jan 19 meeting organized by Robert Reyes (W3R-MD) with Harford County, MD Executive David Craig and staff, Peg Niland, Harford Land Trust, Inc. and Darlene Perry, Executive Director the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum to discuss the preservation potential of an encampment site adjacent to and connecting public open space land in Bel Air. Robert and Joe then toured a proposed NHT route that Robert mapped out in Baltimore.

Janet Burnett (W3R-NY) invited Joe to participate in a January 20, 2010 conference call of the Rockland County, NY Historic Preservation Board. The purpose was to build awareness about the W3R NHT and help them incorporate the NHT into area plans and initiatives.

The Marcher's are planning a June 2011 to October 2011 walk along the W3R NNT. We think this a great opportunity to feature some local events and engage local communities along this more than 700 mile route. We are looking for ways that NPS can help or participate. Please let Joe know if you have any suggestions or ideas.

We continue to receive more and more requests for information, comment and assistance from organizations and the general public. We are doing our best to provide timely, helpful responses and referrals. We are also moving ahead with plans to get the NPS web page up and running and we are exploring the application of social media.

### ***Some news you can use***

#### **The 1772 Foundation opened grant applications for the following focus areas on September 1, 2011:**

##### ***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. The 1772 Foundation will accept one-page letters of inquiry via [their website](#) through April 1, 2011. Invited sites will be notified via email to submit a full application by April 15, 2011. Deadline for applications: June 25, 2011. Grant notification: July 2011

##### ***Historic Preservation***

In cooperation with the New Jersey Historic Trust, the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, and Preserve Rhode Island, funding in the form of 1:1 matching grants up to

\$15,000 are available for exterior painting, security and fire detection systems, roof and window restoration, sill repair/replacement, and chimney re-pointing for sites in NJ, CT, RI. The 1772 Foundation will accept one-page letters of inquiry via [their website](#) through April 1, 2011. Invited sites will be notified via email to submit a full application by April 15, 2011. Deadline for applications: June 25, 2011. Grant notification: July 2011

### **Save America's Treasures grants announcement.**

The National Park Service (NPS) and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH) jointly announced the awarding of \$14.3 million in federal competitive Save America's Treasures (SAT) grants. The grants are made in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), and Save America's Treasures' private partner, the National Trust for Historic Preservation. With the grants, 61 organizations and agencies will conserve nationally significant cultural and historic sites, buildings, objects, documents, and collections. A list of the recipients and their projects can be found at <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures>.

### **NEA Offers Community Planning Grants**

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is offering two grant opportunities for community organizations and local governments to help with regional planning and community improvement.

- The first -- Your Town: The Citizens' Institute on Rural Design -- is designed to help nonprofits, community organizations, and local governments tackle critical regional planning issues through design by bringing design professionals to a community for a multi-day workshop. Up to \$22,000 is available for towns with populations under 50,000. The application deadline is February 25.
- The second -- Our Town -- is intended to help communities build new vitality, economic vigor and livability around the arts. A limited number of grants, ranging from \$25,000 to \$250,000, are available for "creative place making projects." The application deadline is April 25.

For more information, please visit [www.nea.gov](http://www.nea.gov).

### ***Upcoming Events***

#### ***George Washington Birthday Parade & Weekend Festivities***

You won't want to miss the largest parade in the country celebrating the nation's first president, which takes place on Washington's Birthday holiday, Monday, February 21, 1 to 3 p.m. in Old Town Alexandria. The parade is one highlight of many February 19-21 - events, including an historic reenactment at Fort Ward Park, the Birthnight Banquet & Ball at Gadsby's Tavern, a 10-K race, a 1-mile race just before the parade, plus free open houses at historic attractions. Visit [www.Washingtonbirthday.Net/events](http://www.Washingtonbirthday.Net/events) for a complete schedule of events. Call 703.746.3301 or visit [www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com](http://www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com).

### ***13th National Trails System Conference***

The Partnership for the National Trails System has recently announced that the 13th National Trails System Conference will be held in Abingdon, Virginia, May 15-19, 2011. If you are interested in helping organize this important gathering of NST and NHT partners, committees are being organized for program, field trips, a community service project, communications (including marketing and outreach), youth programming, hosting support, and A-V. Contact the Partnership's Julia Glad at PNTSCommunications@gmail.com if you are interested in joining one of the committees.

## **Valley Forge National Historical Park to Host *Lock, Stock & Barrel: The World of the Continental Soldier***

On March 26, Valley Forge National Historical Park will offer a unique and captivating look at the life and culture of the Revolutionary War soldier. This special series of presentations is aimed at historians, students, historic site staff, teachers, volunteers, re-enactors and all others with an interest in America's past. The program brings together some of the nation's leading Revolutionary War authorities in a discussion on artifacts, campaigns, army life and the experiences of those involved in America's struggle for freedom. **Schuylkill River Heritage Area members are being offered a special rate for this event! They can attend for the entire day on March 26 for \$100--a \$30 savings.** As this rate is only available to SRHA members, in order to take advantage of it you must call Diane Ward at 610-453-7688 or email [dward@membership-matters.com](mailto:dward@membership-matters.com).

For schedule and registration form [click here](#).

## **PRINCETON BATTLEFIELD SYMPOSIUM**

**Saturday, February 26, 2011**  
**Friends Hall 101 on Princeton University**  
**Time: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.**

**Sponsored by The Princeton Battlefield Society (PBS) see:**  
<http://www.saveprincetonbattlefield.org/>

Morning session (10:00): Historian Dr. Robert Selig and Archeologist Wade Catts of J. Milner Associates, Cultural Resources Consultants, will present the findings of their recently completed study of the 3 January 1777 battle of Princeton.

Afternoon Session (2:00 tent): Panel discussion by historians on the report's findings:

Glenn Williams - Moderator (Historian, National Museum of the U.S. Army, author of "Year of the Hangman: George Washington's Campaign against the Iroquois")

Panel Member Commenters:

Dr. Lawrence Babits (East Carolina University, author of "Obstinate, Long and Bloody," and "A Devil of a Whipping")

Thomas Fleming (author of "Liberty," "Washington's Secret War," "Perils of Peace," and others)  
Charles Niemeyer (chief historian, US Marine Corps, author of "America Goes to War: A Social History of the Continental Army, 1775 – 1783")

Will Tatum (historian in residence, David Library of the American Revolution)

## ***A couple of Interesting Items***

The statue of the American Revolutionary War hero, General Comte de Rochambeau, in Lafayette Park, Washington, D.C., was erected in 1902. Read details about the statue at <http://www.nps.gov/whho/historyculture/rochambeau.htm>. You can view a video of the unveiling of the statue at <http://vimeo.com/3123233>

**The Washington – Rochambeau Revolutionary Route**

"THE WASHINGTON – ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE". On this site French Troops under Le Comte De Rochambeau encamped August 29, 1781 en route to meeting Gen. ...

[www.historicmarkers.com/.../88204-the-washington-rochambe...](http://www.historicmarkers.com/.../88204-the-washington-rochambe...)