



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

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

by Joe DiBello, Superintendent

Samantha Driscoll has joined us as a full time historian who will be working as the preservation planner for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail (NHT). Samantha, as many of you know, worked with us as a planning assistant under the Student Temporary Employment Program while she was completing her graduate studies at University of Pennsylvania. She received her Master of Science in Historic Preservation and graduated with honors in May. Samantha also completed a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Maryland. Samantha will be activating the NPS website and other media to help get the word out about the NHT; gathering information for future comprehensive planning and resource preservation efforts; preparing GIS maps and information about related sites; and developing partnerships. She will be working in Philadelphia at the U.S. Custom House, 200 Chestnut Street on the 3rd floor (370E). Her phone number is 215-597-2334 and her email address is [samantha\\_driscoll@nps.gov](mailto:samantha_driscoll@nps.gov).

Joe DiBello and Samantha Driscoll 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 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 or call Samantha. It is also posted on the W3R-US web site

Samantha is undertaking an inventory of the route and 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 mapping is underway, and Google Maps are now available for the corridor. Please see the end of the newsletter for all the links to the Google maps. All comments, questions and revisions are welcome.

The Marcher's are planning a June 2011 to October 2011 walk along the NHT. We think this a great opportunity to feature a series of local events and engage local communities along this

more than 700 mile route. A major event and reenactment being planned at Mount Vernon on September 9, 10 and 11 and it is a great opportunity to showcase the NHT. Some are working towards organizing an event in the Boston area. We are looking for ways that NPS can help or participate in an event in your community. Please let Joe or the Marchers know if you are interested in or hosting an event in your area that we may participate in.

With the help of the Northern Virginia Regional Planning Commission, the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail held a workshop May 4th to examine routes between Mount Vernon and Prince William Forest Park which also share resources and constituents with the Washington-Rochambeau NHT. Joe participated in the May 4 workshop. Joe also met with Alexandria officials to incorporate the NHT with their trail plans and to connect with points north.

Samantha participated in a conference call organized by Anna Cosner of George Washington's Mount Vernon about collaborating with them on events they have planned for Sept 9, 10 and 11. The events are planned to include an encampment, reenactment, and ceremony commemorating the events upon Washington and Rochambeau's arrival to Mount Vernon. The discussion included coordinating projects with the Marchers, visitors, and press. There are also plans to invite elected and government officials in the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service for a ceremonial kick-off to the weekend events.

Joe DiBello attended the 13th National Trails System Conference in Abingdon, Virginia, May 14-18, 201. The annual conference focused on how trails contribute to community, human, environmental, economic and educational health. This conference highlighted the value of trails and showcased the great work being done across the country through the workshops, plenary discussions and field trips organized around these themes. Ralph Nelson represented W3R-US and they are interested in joining The Partnership for the National Trail System and becoming part of the network.

Bill Poindexter is exploring support and coordinating events while bicycling the NHT. This will certainly add a new dimension and new partners to the trail experience. Timing some of the biking activities with events planned by the Marchers offer some exciting possibilities for building awareness and sharing information about the NHT. Bill's planned ride will begin July 1 on Martha's Vineyard and end in Williamsburg. Learn more about it here:

<http://www.cyclingw3r.blogspot.com>

Events are being planned to walk and bike the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route in Boston on June 12 and in Providence on June 18. Plans are underway to check the two bicycle routes (Boston to Providence and Newport to Providence) in co-operation with the Marchers, the Epic Cycling Expedition, the National Park Service, and the W3R-US. For further information about the W3R-NHT and these treks see [www.w3r-us.org](http://www.w3r-us.org).

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.

## Announcements and Opportunities

### W3R-US on Facebook

Check out the W3R-US Facebook site. It 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 on Facebook is minimal.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/W3R-Washington-Rochambeau-Revolutionary-Route/185127584842354>

### The 2011 Kodak American Greenways Awards

Deadline for Application: June 15th, 2011

Do you know an organization that is working to create or improve a greenway, trail or waterway? Apply for a Kodak American Greenways Award grant, and your organization could receive up to \$2,500 in grant funds and recognition that comes with selection by this prestigious national program. The Eastman Kodak Company, The Conservation Fund and the National Geographic Society team up each year to present the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program. One major element of the Program involves "seed" grant awards to organizations that are growing our nation's network of greenways, blueways, trails and natural areas. These projects connect Americans to the outdoors and their heritage.

For 2011, the Program anticipates awarding up to fifty percent of the grants to those greenways projects that demonstrate the convergence of economic prosperity and the environment. The vitality of a community depends not only on its economic prospects but also on the quality of its natural environment and outdoor recreational space. Previous recipients have undertaken projects that included the design of a water trail and tourism guide in Columbia, NC; the conversion of an abandoned rail line into a multi-use public trail along the historic Mission Zanja irrigation canal; planting flowers along a community trail to brighten an impoverished neighborhood of Los Angeles; and creating a county-wide greenway and tourism plan in Joe Daviess County, IL. Please see the application for full details and to apply for consideration of your greenway project for Kodak American Greenway Award funding.

## NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance

The mission of the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) is to assist community-led natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation initiatives. RTCA staff provide help (sorry...no money) to communities so they can conserve waterways, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways. RTCA has helped us develop the strategic plan for the NHT. Water trails, or blueways, are a great way to get people down to the water, and help communities connect to their waterways. The National Park Service is currently helping local efforts to create water trails in 48 communities across the country through its Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program. Waterways played a huge role in the Washington- Rochambeau Revolutionary Route and there may be opportunities to combine paddling and history along the route. Do you have an idea for a local conservation and outdoor recreation project along the NHT? We will have to fill out an RTCA Application which are due August 1. Please let me know if you are interested in pursuing this.

## American Trails Network

Learn how you can support trails by joining the American Trails network. American Trails is committed to bringing you all the vital news about funding and policies that affect you. Watch for our ongoing alerts about the budget process, and breaking news on federal transportation funding. Please join our efforts to document the value of trails and bicycle/pedestrian facilities as transportation infrastructure, and be an active and positive voice in the reauthorization process, economic stimulus proposals, and Federal land management agency budgets. Learn how you can help support trails and share the latest information with your networks.

<http://www.americantrails.org/support.html>

## Connecticut and the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route

The CT Forest and Park Association developed a trail activities brochure. See an electronic copy here:

<http://www.ctwoodlands.org/CT-TrailsDay2011> There are a number of trail related events in CT home which is home to three National Trails and the Washington Rochambeau NHT is prominently listed. CT has developed a Washington Rochambeau Trail brochure and there is a publication about trail markers in CT [www.hseh.org/CT\\_MARKERS.pdf](http://www.hseh.org/CT_MARKERS.pdf)

## The National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust Preservation Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation offers several types of financial assistance to nonprofit organizations, public agencies, for-profit companies, and individuals involved in preservation-related projects. Generally, financial assistance available to restore historic buildings and homes can be divided into the three categories below. Please review each of these sections, as there may be some overlap in how funds are awarded.

For those restoring an historic house or other structure for their primary residence.

For nonprofit organizations and federal, state, or local government agencies.

For those restoring or preserving income-producing properties.

For Grant Seekers

Scholarships

## Orton Family Foundation

The Orton Family Foundation seeks to partner with four new communities in the second round of its five-year, \$10 million Heart & Soul Community Planning initiative. The initiative challenges citizens to imagine and achieve a better future for themselves and their town through an innovative community planning process. The Request for Proposals (RFP) was released.

The Foundation will select four towns with a population under 30,000—two in New England and two in the northern Rocky Mountain West. Each selected community will receive training, technical assistance, and \$100,000 in supporting funds over two years as they pursue a Heart & Soul Community Planning project. The submission deadline for proposals is July 20, 2011.

## Pennsylvania Statewide Preservation Plan

Trail and conservation organizations as well as the general public are encouraged to participate in an upcoming public forum, the feedback from which will help shape the new PA Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The regional public forums will present the results of last year's value survey and moderate a discussion to identify how to best preserve those values through the Commonwealth's historic preservation-related programs. The primary goal of the planning process is for the public to inform the Pennsylvania's State Historic Preservation Office of what they value in their community in

order to determine the preservation priorities of people who live and work in Pennsylvania. This plan will help the state identify, prioritize and address historic preservation needs over the course of the next five years. For more information, visit [here](#), or contact Hannah Charlton at (717) 783-2698.

Public forums in the NHT corridor are planned for

June 8, 2011, 1-4 p.m. – Philadelphia. Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 190 N. Independence Mall West, 8th Floor, Philadelphia

June 9, 2011, 12:30-3:30 p.m. – Ambler. Ambler Theater 108 E. Butler Ave, Ambler, PA 19002

## National Trails Day

National Trails Day is a celebration of trails to increase the awareness of community trails and help volunteer trail clubs. It is organized by the American Hiking Society with financial support from FHWA's Recreational Trails Program, Federal land management agencies, and many private corporations and other partners. For more information, please visit [www.americanhiking.org/NTD.aspx](http://www.americanhiking.org/NTD.aspx).

## Building a New National Trail : SEPTEMBER 11TH NATIONAL MEMORIAL TRAIL™

This year as America approaches the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001, when the United States and the world were shocked by an act of terrorism beyond imagination, our citizens throughout the country have an opportunity to be part of a national trail to be called the September 11th National Memorial Trail; built as a tribute to all those who perished in America's single worst terrorist attack. The establishment of a hiking, biking and driving trail will provide a physical linkage connecting the three memorials commemorating the tragic events that occurred at the Flight 93 National Memorial, the World Trade Center, and the Pentagon. With support from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program, and trail and outdoors organizations, three public planning meetings/open houses were held in PA. To learn more contact David G. Brickley, President and CEO, September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance, 4310 Ridgewood Center Drive, Woodbridge, Virginia 22192, phone 703-670-4526, e-mail [911trail@comcast.net](mailto:911trail@comcast.net)

Adventure Cycling: Cycling W3R Expedition: A Revolutionary Idea is ...

It is called the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route, aka "W3R." I first learned of the W3R in September 2010, 229 years after the historic march, ... For more on the Cycling W3R Expedition, see [www.f88me.com/showthread.php?p=567847](http://www.f88me.com/showthread.php?p=567847)

## GOOGLE MAPS OF THE WASHINGTON ROCHAMBEAU NHT

Massachusetts

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a4baba5f22e309618&ll=41.878956,-71.393795&spn=0.045181,0.077162&z=14>

Undergoing Revision

Rhode Island

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a4bab853899e17653&ll=41.779633,-71.551552&spn=0.090503,0.154324&z=13&iwloc=0004a4bab9bbd16c2321a>

Revised

Connecticut

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a262479ecf46ddb7&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

New York

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a2624b4370a353a50&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

New Jersey

Corridor 1:

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a2624c7bf1a944856&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Corridor 2:

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a2624dde067a2eea2&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Pennsylvania

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a2624f51bf9d01442&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Delaware

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a26250ec5a59b5191&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Maryland

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a262523351697efa7&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Virginia

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a26253679ff8426e3&ll=40.747257,-75.651855&spn=11.762128,16.677246&z=6>

Washington DC

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=209906619738887673153.0004a3a1d7f366907de05&z=12>