



Washington-Rochambeau

Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

February 2012



Recent NHT Events

The W3R-PA, W3R-US, National Park Service and the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center (FWWIC) in Philadelphia hosted Congressman Chaka Fattah for a Black History Month event, “African American Soldiers in the American Revolution” on February 23, 2012. The Center is within the Schuylkill River National and State Heritage Area and adjacent to the new Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail which connects Independence National Historical Park and other communities and sites along the NHT through Pennsylvania. Dr. Robert Selig spoke about the militia service during the War for Independence, Historian Joe Becton provided a rousing soldiers’ perspective of an African American in the First RI Regiment and Continental Army, and Joe DiBello presented the new NHT brochure to the attendees.

W3R-PA Vice President Ursula Reed was recently awarded Philadelphia Continental Chapter, The Pennsylvania Society Sons of American Revolution’s “Americanism Award 2012” at their annual Washington’s Birthday Celebration’s luncheon ceremony at the City Tavern on February 18, 2012. Ursula was recognized for her devotion to the creation of the Washington-Rochambeau NHT as well as her work in furthering the mission of W3R-PA and the W3R-US. Congratulations Ursula and we look forward to your continued successes!

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On February 3, Joe attended a meeting of southeastern PA trails hosted by the East Coast Greenway and Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission. There is tremendous energy and progress in developing a regional network of trails that links Philadelphia, Camden and the surrounding Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey area. The NHT provides another asset, amenity or feature to the trail network and an opportunity to add a cultural resource component to the many ongoing efforts.

On February 13, Joe attended a NPS National Trail Managers meeting hosted by Steve Elkinton in Washington. We met Bob Ratcliffe, the new NPS Chief of Conservation and Outdoor Recreation who comes to us from serving as Chief of Recreation at the BLM office in DC. We discussed the importance of Connect Trails to Parks and Challenge Cost Share funding to the National Trails, particularly those in “start up” mode. We stressed the need for transparent processes, strategic application of limited funds particularly as it applies to the Call to Action, clear instructions for proposal development and the involvement of Trail Managers in project selection. We also discussed the use of GIS and the importance of getting National Trails and Rivers “on the map”.

The Partnership for the National Trail System and its members spent mid- February in Washington meeting with federal officials and holding its board and leadership council meetings. Each year a large delegation of citizen trail advocates visits Washington, DC, to meet with members of Congress and Administration officials to bring them up to speed on their trails. Future budgets are on everyone’s mind.



NPS: A Call to Action

The National Park Service is nearing its 100th Anniversary in 2016. National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis has announced the plan 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 A Call to Action at: http://inside.nps.gov/calltoaction/pdf/C2A_report.pdf

The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail is embracing this plan as we work with communities along the route. Please share your thoughts and ideas with us as we work together on these three goals:

Connecting People to Parks, Action 3: History Lesson

“Expand the meaning of parks to new audiences and provide an opportunity for communities to learn more about their heritage by conducting history discovery events, using oral histories and other methods, ...”

We will look for ways in 2012 to reach new audiences to tell the story of Generals Washington and Rochambeau, the allied armies, and the people impacted by this event. We have had many successful events in 2011 that helped get the word out, but we must build on and expand the reach of our message.

Connecting People to Parks, Action 5: Parks for People

“Enhance the connection of densely populated, diverse communities to parks, greenways, trails, and waterways to improve close-to-home recreation and natural resources conservation.”

The Washington-Rochambeau NHT connects many of the largest metropolitan areas on the east coast and connects many national, state, local parks, trails, heritage areas, and greenways on the route. We can use this opportunity to explore innovative ways to connect communities and cultural resource preservation and interpretation.

Advancing the NPS Education Mission, Action 17: Go Digital

“Reach new audiences and maintain a conversation with all Americans by transforming the NPS digital experience to offer rich, interactive, up-to-date content from every park and program. To accomplish this we will create a user-friendly web platform that supports online and mobile technology including social media.”

The Washington-Rochambeau NHT will have an official NPS website up and running in early 2012, followed by Facebook and Twitter presence, and a blog for highlighting events, stories, and discussion of the NHT. We hope to develop an interactive map of the entire NHT.



Moving Forward

Joe and Samantha are updating, revising and adding a number of proposals to our potential Connect Trails to Parks and Challenge Cost Share proposals. Many thanks for your ideas, input and support. We will do our best to identify opportunities for cost sharing but keep in mind that we are in very “competitive” environment and we do not want to raise false hope or promise of financial help.

Congress has reauthorized the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network (CBGN), the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, and the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail through fiscal year 2013 and appropriated \$2 million for FY12. On March 22, we will be meeting with John Maonis and the NPS Chesapeake Bay Office so we can coordinate activities along the Captain John Smith NHT, Star-Spangled Banner NHT, Potomac Heritage NST and the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT, all of which share resources and have significant water trail components.

Mapping the NHT through the development of GIS files in addition to the Google Maps already available (see below) is still underway. Creating GIS map files for all National trails, parks, landmarks and heritage areas, this project will create a unified and consistent NPS map that will be easily accessible by the public, also serving to clearly highlight the many locations where Washington-Rochambeau NHT connects with NPS units, trails and related areas.

We are moving forward with the Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) grant in conjunction with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and Hudson River Valley Greenway. The grant will be used for designing, installing, and determining locations for directional signage and wayside exhibits for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT in New York. The grant also will support the development of maps and brochures, like the NPS unigrid brochure, for the NHT in NY. The Washington-Rochambeau NHT, working through the NPS Harpers Ferry Center and with our NY and Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area partners, will carry out the project.

We would like to compile photos of all Washington-Rochambeau NHT events, past and future. Please send any photos you would like included to Samantha Driscoll at samantha_driscoll@nps.gov. You can register for a free Flickr account. Once registered, you will be able to comment on all photos. We ask your help in using the comment section to caption the images and tell more about the event!

Please see photos of past events at:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/washington-rochambeau/>



Announcements

The National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association (W3R®-US) 2012 Membership Dues and Donations

Dues and donations support continuing programs for documenting the activities of the allied troops under Generals Washington and Rochambeau in 1781-83, installing signage for public education, participating in commemorative activities with affiliate organizations, working with the National Park Service to develop the W3R® as a National Historic Trail, and publicizing its history and heritage tourism opportunities through brochures, newsletters, and their website. To join, donate, or find out more, please visit www.w3r-us.org.

The American Revolution Center named Michael C. Quinn as President and CEO

Philadelphia, PA, February 14, 2012 -- H.F. (Gerry) Lenfest, chairman of The American Revolution Center today announced that Michael C. Quinn will join the organization as president and CEO effective April 1, 2012. Quinn will oversee all aspects of the development of The Museum of the American Revolution, to be built in the historic area of Philadelphia. Since 1999, Quinn has served as president and CEO of The Montpelier Foundation. Under his leadership, the home of James Madison and its surrounding environment were transformed from a 1900s mansion into a vibrant interpretive and educational center focusing on James Madison and the U.S. Constitution. He oversaw the \$25 million restoration of James Madison's home, and the planning and construction of a 15,000 square foot visitor center. Previously, Quinn served as deputy director at Mt. Vernon's Ladies Association where he was responsible for on-site interpretation, educational programs, special events, marketing, public relations, and publications. He also served as executive director of the D.C. Preservation League and as a preservation planner for the U.S. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Quinn received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia, a Master of Arts from Yale University, and a Master of Business Administration from George Mason University. He will be moving to Philadelphia with his wife, Carolyn.

National Water Trails System Announcement

On February 29, 2012, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar unveiled the National Water Trails System, a new network that will increase access to water-based outdoor recreation, encourage community stewardship of local waterways, and promote tourism that fuels local economies across America. A White House Conference on Conservation hosted by the Department of the Interior highlighted community-driven conservation efforts as part of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative. Secretary Salazar signed a Secretarial Order that establishes national water trails as a class of national recreational trails under the National Trails System Act of 1968. The order sets the framework for Secretarial designation of water trails that will help facilitate outdoor recreation on waterways in and around urban areas, and pro-



vide national recognition and resources to existing, local water trails. Under the Secretarial Order, the National Park Service will coordinate the national water trail nomination process. To learn more about the National Trails System, please visit: <http://www.nps.gov/nts/>

Public input for 2013 Virginia Outdoors Plan

Planners with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation are inviting residents are invited to share their ideas for outdoor recreation and land conservation needs. The following are among the topics relevant to the Northern region: Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, Journey Through Hallowed Ground, ongoing regional connections and trail development, local and regional conservation needs, especially opportunities to preserve rural and agricultural lands, active recreation needs and opportunities, state scenic rivers and scenic byways and existing water trails, including Occoquan, Potomac and Captain John Smith and lets not forget, the Washington Rochambeau NHT. Anyone may submit written comments. Email comments to janit.llewellyn@dcr.virginia.gov, or write to: VOP Comments, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, 203 Governor St., Suite 326, Richmond, VA 23219.

Delaware State Historic Preservation Plan 2013-2017

In order to solicit information for use in drafting Delaware's 2013-2017 state-wide historic-preservation plan, the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs will be holding five public meetings at locations across the state in late-February and early-March 2012. Members of the public who are not able to attend one of the public meetings may instead submit written comments to the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, 21 the Green, Dover, DE 19901; or via e-mail at preservationplan@state.de.us.

Pathways Across America Magazine Request for article submission

Are you interested in showcasing your trail or trail office/organization? Pathways Across America, the quarterly magazine of the National Trails System, is currently accepting article ideas & submissions from partner organization leadership and members and agency partners.

Articles may range in length and topics may include but are not limited to: Volunteer or Youth Programs, Outreach/Marketing Initiatives, Preservation Successes, Developments in Interpretation and Event/Conference Overviews -You can use Pathways as an outreach, marketing, or fundraising tool for your trail. Don't miss your chance to show off your trail endeavors to the National Trails Community and beyond!

Please contact Julia Glad at PNTSCcommunications@gmail.com if you are interested in submitting an article.



**Historic Trails Workshop
Albuquerque/Socorro, New Mexico
May 14-18, 2012**

Themes for the workshop include Trail Corridor and Resource Protection, Multi-Generational Volunteer & Membership Engagement, Partnership Building with Organizations with Shared Values, and other topics of interest. Please verify that you have the correct dates as they have changed from the original plan. For more information go to <http://www.pnts.org/>

**The American Trails International Trails Symposium (ITS)
Fountain Hills, Mesa, and Scottsdale, Arizona
April 2013**

The American Trails International Trails Symposium (ITS) is being held at the Radisson on the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation near Fountain Hills, Mesa, and Scottsdale, Arizona in April 2013. The momentum in Arizona is already growing! We know that training and travel budgets are limited and want to make sure there will be content specific to what you need. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey. Your answers will help shape the Symposium! More information: <http://www.americantrails.org/2013/>

Reminder: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) Community Conservation Partnership Grant Round Open, Workshops Set

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources opened the 2012 application period for the Community Conservation Partnerships Program Grants administered by the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation. The primary open application period officially began on January 11 and will end at 4 p.m. on April 4. Depending on the funding source, eligible applicants include Commonwealth municipalities and appropriate nonprofit organizations. Grant assistance from the Department helps communities in this Commonwealth and organizations plan, acquire and develop recreation, park and trail facilities and conserve open space.

Specific priorities for grant proposals include: the rehabilitation of existing park and recreation facilities, particularly through the incorporation of green principles; trail projects that close gaps in major Statewide greenways and regionally significant trails; implementation of Rivers Conservation Plans including enhancing water trails and improving public river access; planning to help park and recreation facilities become greener; land conservation for critical habitat, key connectors, expansion of existing park and recreation areas and the establishment of new community parks; and projects identified by regional partnerships including Conservation Landscape Initiatives, Heritage Areas and Statewide significant greenways.

For more information:

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/c2p2programguidance/index.htm>
<http://www.paoutdoorrecplan.com/>



Google Maps of the NHT

[Click on the state for map](#)

Massachusetts

Rhode Island

Connecticut

New York

New Jersey, Corridor 1

New Jersey, Corridor 2

Pennsylvania

Delaware

Maryland

Virginia

Washington DC