



An Urgent Dispatch for the General Staff

the E-newsletter of the W3R-US -- November 2009



What's Going On?

Our Executive Committee, Board of Directors, state chapter chairs, and National Park Service Superintendent are working with the states and affiliates to implement the programs initiated at our planning meetings in Annapolis, Lebanon and Yorktown.

The **Alliance Exhibit Committee** continues its work cataloging artifacts that would be suitable and available for the exhibit..

The **Bylaws Review Committee** is working toward publishing in the December Newsletter a schedule of topics to discuss during the January teleconferences. Members should mark their calendars for 7:30 PM on Jan 7, 14, 21, 28 for the teleconferences -- join one or all.

The **Map Refinement Committee** has developed a procedure for using StreetAtlas®, Excel®, and GoogleMap® to develop multi-layer maps and share them with the state chapters for comments and revisions. This avoids the expense of buying ten commercial GIS management systems. The separate layers will cover historic routes, tourism routes, historic campsites, national parks, local W3R-related sites, signs, etc. We can then quickly add and delete layers to get maps suitable for brochures, guides, cue sheets, and the Web. We are now populating the database with paths and labels and hope to get some maps to the state chairs for review and comments in January. See next page for examples. or read www.w3r-us.org/resonotes.htm#maps

Our first project is the main historic trail south and a tourism route following this trail. To aid this work W3R-NHT Supt. Joe DiBello secured a number of spiral-bound books with nine high-resolution maps covering the entire W3R-NHT network. We will use these in planning sessions with members, affiliates, state and local agencies and foundations.

Trademark registration for the W3R-US Logo is in progress and should be completed in January.

A **brochure on Major General Louis Duportail**, founder of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is nearing completion (in English and French versions). This is based on an article in a French publication by Daniel Jouve and further information provided by W3R-FR member Jacques de Trentinian and Col. Serge Le Pottier, author of a new biography on Duportail. M. de Trentinian is writing the French version, which is parallel with, but not a literal translation of, the English version. We plan to distribute these through sites such as the Duportail house in Chesterbrook PA, West Point, and the French Military Engineering School at Mézières.

One Vision of the Future

by Ralph Nelson, Chair of the W3R-US

With some luck and pluck the W3R-US, the National Park Service, and our friends and affiliates will make the following come true:

By 2015 families will enjoy walking and bicycling (in all nine states) safe sections of the W3R-NHT that have interesting history or that show the participants what the route looked like in 1781. Using guidebooks that are widely available families will plan trips to learn more about our nation's creation. Along the way they will listen to pod casts downloaded from the Web while following route signs in place along the main W3R-NHT paths from Newport to Yorktown (and some of the major side paths). In traveling the whole route they could read fifty interpretive signs and visit twenty parks and museums that have at least one exhibit or interactive kiosk focused on French assistance during the American Revolution.

By traveling less than thirty miles millions will be able to see either a major exhibit or a traveling exhibit in a local historical museum. In years that are decade-anniversaries of the allied march to Yorktown they may watch the full-route march by re-enactors or -- with local Scouts, color guards, JROTC, and history buffs -- they may accompany the marchers on short sections of the trail.

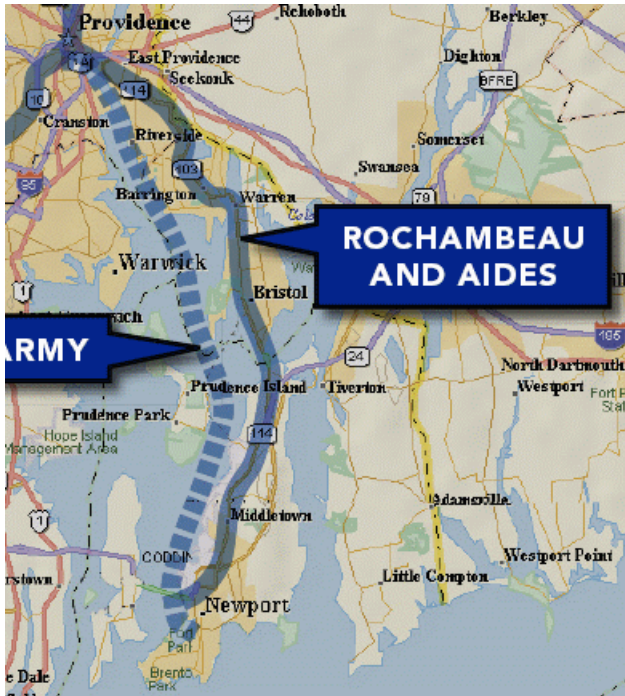
Each year thousands of visitors from Europe, especially from France and Germany, will appreciate the home-language brochures -- available at major tourism sites along the route -- explaining how their ancestors helped the birth of the United States and showing where their ancestors marched and camped.

French-language groups will have annual essay contests focused on a different aspect of the W3R each year. Re-enactors (living historians) will portray both U.S. and French troops and talk about their experiences on the great march that ended in a great victory. Americans will gain a new appreciation of the historic value of our waterways as touring groups cruise, sail, or paddle on the streams used by the allied army to travel to Yorktown.

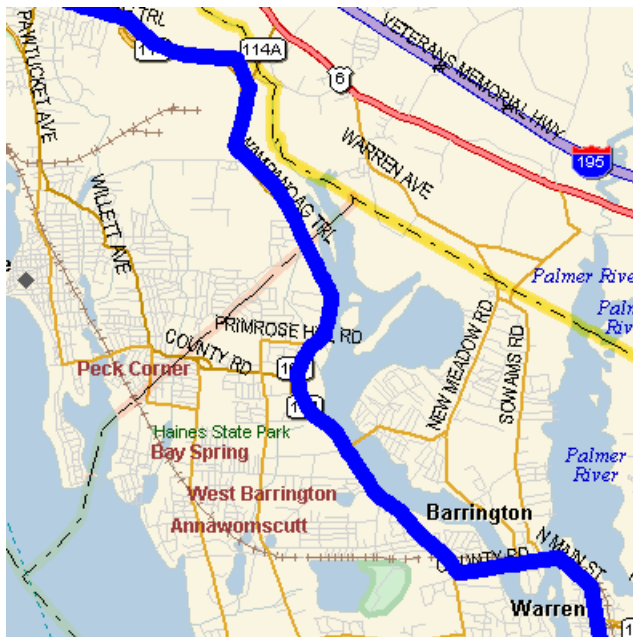
The W3R-US will have chapters in twenty states and several hundred member who serve as liaisons with affiliate groups, organize local commemorations and trail events. They also give presentations, write articles, and create exhibits on the W3R.

What's your vision for the W3R-NHT? See page 2.

WWW.W3R-US.ORG



Draft historic routes in RI on spiral-bound high-res map



Draft tourism route in RI trial on StreetAtlas® base map

Calendar of Events

Jan 7, 14, 21, 28 - 7:30 PM **Bylaw Committee teleconferences** (open to members) to discuss alternative future structures for the W3R-US. Further information will be sent to members.

April 10, 2010 - **Annual Meeting of the W3R-US** at Marist College in Poughkeepsie NY. Perhaps a dinner Friday night, perhaps a tour of the area for people staying for Sunday. Further information will be sent to members.

Biosketch of a W3R-NY Leader

Tema Harnik, Executive Director of the Greater Hudson Heritage Network, has worked with museums and historical societies in New York City, the Hudson Valley and across New York State for over 30 years. An art historian by academic training, Tema has worked from the curatorial side and from the service and funding side of the museum field, developing early “cultural casework” experience at the Museum Program of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), and at the Center for Arts Information in NYC.

At Greater Hudson, Tema works with a regional Board

- to provide hands-on professional development opportunities for staff, boards and volunteer stewards of the National Heritage Area’s unique heritage holdings
- to produce a multi-year Practicum for 21st Century Museum Professionals in Historic House Museums
- to guide a collaborative program of regional assistance for historical records keepers through the Documentary Heritage Program of the New York State Archives
- to manage a statewide grant program supporting the professional Conservation Treatment of objects in NY’s non-profit cultural collections, in partnership with the Museum Program of NYSCA

Tema Harnik has served on cultural education, library, preservation and history advisory councils and as a grants reviewer and panelist for the NEH and IMLS. Tema has served as a member of the New York delegation to W3R-USA from its inception. ?

Greater Hudson Heritage Network is an agent for the advancement of member cultural organizations, their staffs and boards, throughout the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. From 1984 to 2008 it was named the Lower Hudson Conference of Historical Agencies & Museums. GHHN’s mission is

- to serve the network of history keepers and historic communities throughout the region as a catalyst
 - to advance professional standards and practices
 - to build the capacity of organizations to meet their missions
 - to create a network of effective, professional stewards of regional history and culture now and in the future.
- See www.greaterhudson.org

State Activity for W3R-DC

Not yet available; will be published when submitted

Biosketch of a W3R-RI Leader

Not yet available; will be published when submitted