



An Urgent Dispatch for the General Staff

the E-newsletter of the W3R-US -- March 2010
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The Virginia / Atlantic Committee

by Nicole Yancey, W3R-VA chair

Due to inclement weather, several meetings had to be postponed. Several actions are being considered:

--- **Replace the "St.Simon" sign** which was broken while being moved in 2007 to prepare Jamestown Island for the celebration. NPS Superintendent Dan Smith suggested two locations with preference to one in James City County (College Park). Although it is not the site of St. Simon landing, it is the site where troops joined and gathered before the siege of Yorktown. The location is being chosen based on its visibility to tourists.

--- **Place an interpretive marker in Hampton VA** at a site to be determined. Hampton is celebrating a significant time in its history and is taking the opportunity to develop its history. The marker will show the encampment of Lauzun's Legion after the battle of Yorktown and the hospital where several soldiers were treated and died.

--- **Place a marker in Gloucester VA** to recount the heroic Battle of the Hook. The location being considered is close to an historic tavern. The property is for sale, along Route 17, the main artery leading to the Coleman Bridge linking Gloucester Point and Yorktown.

RW Film Premiered in Philadelphia

news from Ursula Reed, W3R-PA

The Revolutionary River is a 47-minute film that presents -- through dramatizations and interviews with experts -- the Schuylkill River region's fascinating history from Native American times through the American, Industrial and Environmental Revolutions, and as a valuable resource today. On March 21 the Philadelphia Museum of Art celebrated the film's premiere with a unique meet-the-producer dessert reception at the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center.

The film was produced for public television by Telemark Films, on behalf of the Schuylkill River National and State Heritage Area, in partnership with the William Penn Foundation, the National Park Service, and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. It is the first in a six-part series, *Our National Heritage*, that will explore six different National Heritage Areas.



Participants discussed the placement of new responses during the work session in Washington DC



Suggestions were shared and many notes taken in RI

Greenburgh NY honors Rochambeau

news from Frank Jazzo, W3R-NY

Greenburgh NY held its annual **Rochambeau Ramble** at the Odell House. Living History re-enactors from the Ardsley Middle School took part. Under Robert Stackpole's guidance the Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution continued its restoration of the Odell House, which served as General Rochambeau's headquarters for six weeks in 1781.

Non-W3R Events of Interest

April 16-18: Morristown NJ -- **Revolutionary Times Weekend**, Gen. Washington is there on April 17th.

May 12-14: San Antonio TX -- Partnership for the National Trails System: Workshop on **"Cultural and Heritage Tourism: Trails as Destinations"**.

June 5: **National Trail Day** - many groups will have hikes this weekend (see 2010 Events on our Website)

WWW.W3R-US.ORG

March 2010 Highlights of the W3R-NHT

by Joseph DiBello, Superintendent

- On March 12 we held the **second work session** for about 45 stakeholders from RI, CT and MA at the Radisson Hotel in Warwick RI. A summary of the meeting was prepared and will be sent out to participants and posted on the W3R-us website.
- On March 26 we held the **third work session** for about 20 stakeholders from DC, DE, MD and VA at the John Wilson Building in Washington, DC. Participants from Colonial National Park, Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, John Smith NHT, Star Spangled Banner NHT and Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail shared their experiences with areas where we can work together -- GIS coordination and mapping, comprehensive management planning, and agreements with the states. We will coordinate and collaborate on all of our trail efforts and we will acknowledge each effort as part of the other.
- With Julie Bell and Antoinette Jett of the Northeast's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program, we prepared **summaries of the NJ and RI work sessions** -- resources and themes of the NHT, mission and vision and future actions. These will provide input to a strategic plan that will serve as a foundation for the comprehensive management plan. The summaries will be sent out to participants, posted on the W3R-US website, and presented to the April 10 Annual Meeting of the W3R-US.
- The **National Trails System Challenge Cost Share program** has made \$30,950 available for the W3R-NHT in FY10 as matching funds through the W3R-US. One proposal would match funding for a documentary survey project focused on MD as Phase One of the research for a detailed, Maryland-specific land and water-based route reconnaissance and cultural resource survey for the W3R-NHT.
- NPS' Harper's Ferry Center is developing an **NHT logo** incorporating the existing W3R-US logo and has prepared a draft scope for an **NPS brochure**.
- We are working with the Northeast Region's Interpretation and Education Division to establish an **NPS website** for the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail. We hope to hire two grad students from the Univ. of Penn. School of Design as summer interns to develop web content and other digital media.

- We are working with Valley Forge and Independence NHPs to store and update the **W3R** (presently on display at Valley Forge) until a new venue can be identified.

- We are **exploring opportunities** for developing Connect Trails to Parks funding proposals, trail-related events for National Trails Day (June 5), and the upcoming America's Great Outdoors initiative.

New Web Sites on Rivers and Trails

based on a newsletter by Karl Beard, NPS-RTCA

The National Geographic and the National Park Service joined to build a new Web site for the **Hudson National Historic Area**. Go to www.hudsonrivervalley.com, check off Revolutionary War and Lower Hudson, then Search. The rescalable and annotated Terrametric(R) maps on this site are similar to the GoogleMaps(R) that we are exploring to share draft W3R tourism routes. The site will soon have lesson plans -- posted on a separate site, www.teachingthehudsonvalley.com. They plan to have some podcasts posted about April 17.



Networking during the work session in Warwick RI



Careful thought during the Washington DC session

Calendar of W3R-US Events (and also see our Website)

April 10 - **Annual Meeting** of the W3R-US at Marist College in Poughkeepsie NY, with installation dinner Saturday night, and optional tours on Sunday.