

Washington-Rochambeau

Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail



February 2015 Highlights



L'Hermione (Photo courtesy of Ranulf 1214, Flickr Creative Commons)

News Along the Trail

L'Hermione Voyage 2015

In 2015, the National Park Service (NPS) will bring together national parks, national heritage areas, national trails, national rivers and national programs in the Northeast Region to share the revolutionary story as reconstructed French frigate L'Hermione arrives for its East Coast Tour. The voyage begins this April, when L'Hermione will set sail for America. The journey will start from the mouth of the River Charente, in Port des Barques, where Lafayette boarded on March 10th, 1780. The transatlantic crossing is expected to take 27 days in total, before making landfall at Yorktown, Virginia.

In 1780, L'Hermione brought Lafayette from France to Boston where he then met with General Washington informing him of the alliance with France. The frigate joined French Admiral de Grasse's fleet for the Battle off the Capes on the lower Chesapeake and the siege at Yorktown. It then sailed to Philadelphia in 1781 where the Continental Congress visited and paid tribute to her.

As the Hermione moves up the eastern seaboard this spring and summer, it will be accompanied by a range of pier-side activities. These include, in some ports, a traveling exhibition and a heritage village that will be accessible to the public. The Hermione Voyage 2015 is part of an expansive outreach program with cultural events, exhibitions, and educational programs that celebrate the trip and mark its progress. A robust digital activation for the voyage expands the reach of the project to millions of people.

Thanks to support from the Northeast Region, we are providing funding to develop a mobile NPS display, provide publications and educational materials, and to have NPS staff stationed at ports where the L'Hermione will dock. This is a great opportunity to reach a diverse group and tell them about not only the NHT, but all of our National Parks and Programs, the NPS Centennial, and the many outstanding natural and cultural resources along the way. L'Herminoine's East Coast Tour will stop at the following ports:

JUNE

June 5, 6, 7-Yorktown, VA
June 9-Mount Vernon, VA (ship at anchor)
June 10, 11, 12-Alexandria, VA (city dock)
June 16, 17-Annapolis, MD (city dock)
June 19, 20, 21-Baltimore, MD (adjacent USS Constellation & Pride of Baltimore)
June 25, 26, 27, 28-Philadelphia, PA (with Tall Ships America/Independence Seaport)

JULY

July 1, 2, 3, 4-New York, NY (with educational ships from U.S. east coast)
July 6, 7-Greenport, NY (with Tall Ships America)
July 8, 9-Newport, RI (with Oliver Hazard Perry – Fort Adams)
July 11, 12-Boston, MA – (Rowe's Wharf)
July 14, 15-Castine, ME
July 18-Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

We welcome your ideas as to how we can maximize this tremendous opportunity. Please contact Paul Kenney with questions at paul_kenney@nps.gov or call 215-597-5823. Staff with the Washington-Rochambeau NHT and W3R-US will be meeting with Friends of the Hermione in early March to flesh out details. We look forward to updating you about the events planned. We hope to see you dockside later this year!

Tall Ships and Hermione Sailing the Delaware in late June

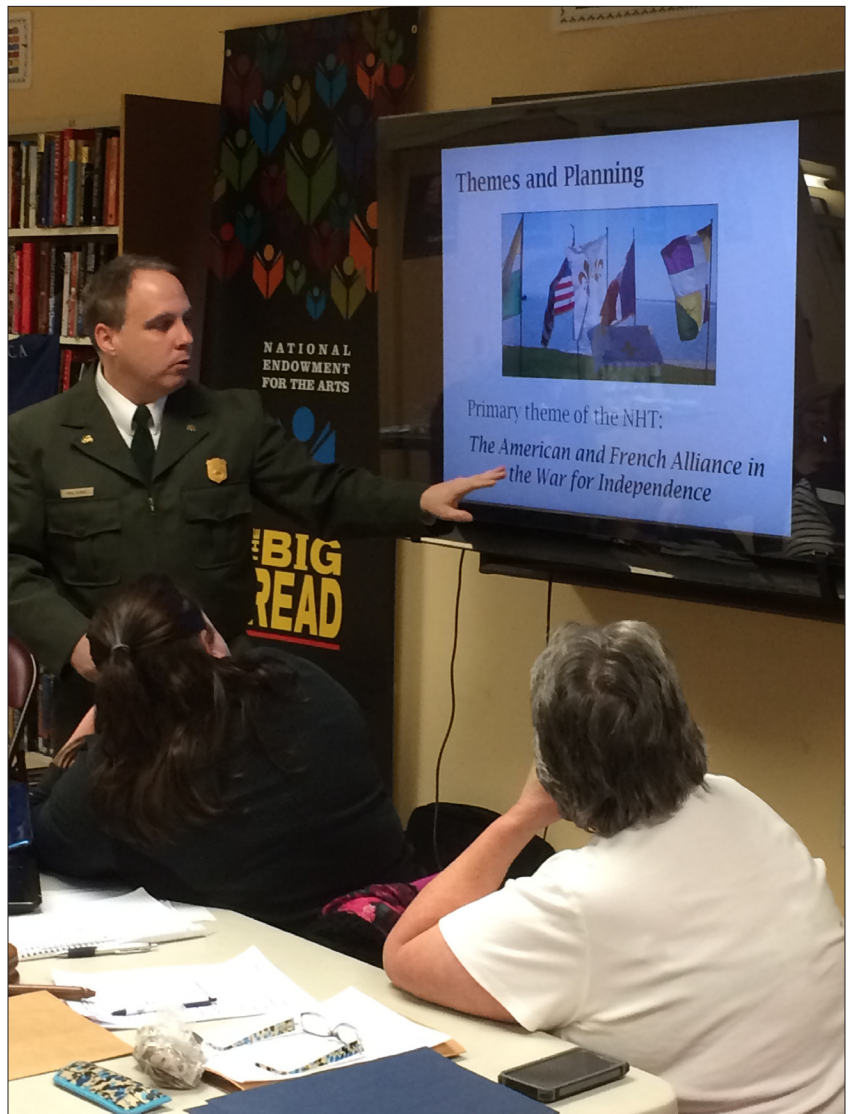
The tall ships and the Hermione will be docked in Philadelphia from June 25-28. The NHT, Independence National Historical Park, Valley Forge National Historical Park, and First State National Park (based in New Castle DE) are exploring opportunities to showcase NPS and share our stories with visitors to the event. Learn more about First State National Park <http://www.nps.gov/frst/index.htm>. Those paddling with the Delaware River Sojourn will also be spending their last two days in the Tidal Delaware while the ships are here. For more information on the sojourn visit DelawareRiverSojourn.org. We are also working with Fort Mifflin and the Schuylkill River National Heritage Area to maximize this opportunity to share our heritage.

New York Outdoor Wayside Exhibits

Work on the development of outdoor wayside exhibits for fifteen sites in New York selected as destinations for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT has resumed. Phil Correll (Emeritus Volunteer) helped us collect the final comments and Paul Kenney organized them and submitted them to our Harpers Ferry Center (Susan Haines) who are providing us with technical assistance and managing this project for us. The final edits were conveyed to the contractor. We will prepare a detailed schedule for you as soon as we hear back. We know you are anxiously waiting to have the waysides developed and shipped to you for installation. We hope they will be delivered in time for installation by early Summer 2015. Each site will receive two exhibit panels. One will be a site specific interpretive exhibit linking the site to part of the Washington-Rochambeau story. The second exhibit will be an overall orientation panel about the Washington-Rochambeau NHT with an inset “You-Are-Here” map showing the locations of the fifteen destinations in New York. We see this partnership project in New York as a prototype for wayside exhibits along the entire Washington-Rochambeau NHT.

Daughters of the American Revolution in Landsdowne, PA

“You likely have walked the same places as the men and women who won the Revolutionary War.” That was part of the message presented by Trail Manager Paul Kenney to the Lansdowne Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) on Saturday, February 21st, at the Lansdowne Public Library, in Delaware County, PA. Kenney was invited by the DAR to discuss the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail (NHT), and its relevance to Delaware County, PA. “They passed right by here,” he added, referring to the 700-mile trek conducted by the Continentals and their French allies in the summer of 1781. The NHT follows the rural and urban roads along what is still a major transportation corridor in the northeast. In Philadelphia, the troops marched down Chestnut Street and paraded before the Continental Congress. They eventually marched down what is now U.S. 13. While camped at Marcus Hook, General George Washington displayed a rare show of emotion when he learned that the French Navy under Admiral DeGrasse defeated Britain’s Royal Navy off the Virginia Capes, thereby sealing the fate of the British Army at Yorktown.



Paul Kenney presents the NHT to members of the Landsdowne DAR

National Trails System Meeting in Washington D.C. on February 8-10

Paul Kenney represented the NHT and attended the National Trails System meetings in Washington D.C. on February 9-10. Preparing for the NPS Centennial, enhancing Youth Programs and developing future Challenge Cost Share and Connecting Trails to Parks proposals were emphasized. The Partnership for the National Trails System also met during the week of Feb 7-13 for their annual workshop and “Hike the Hill” effort. Ursula Reed, Board President of W3R-US attended the workshop. Ursula and Robert Reyes, also participated in “Hike the Hill” meetings and visiting Congressional offices to support Land and Water Conservation Fund reauthorization and funding, NPS Centennial funds and seeking programmatic increases for National Trails.

National Endowment for the Arts and National Park Service Team Up

“Art is the child of Nature,” said American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. A new grant initiative created in partnership by the NEA and the National Park Service celebrates the intersections between the two in honor of the NEA’s 50th anniversary in 2015 and the National Park Service’s centennial in 2016. “Imagine Your Parks” will provide \$1 million in funding through the NEA Art Works grant category to projects that use the arts to engage people with memorable places and landscapes of the National Park System. The National Park System includes not only national parks, but also national historic sites, trails, rivers, seashores, landmarks and national monuments, heritage areas, preserves, battlefields, recreation areas, and more. “Imagine Your Parks” will support art projects that encourage the creation of and greater public engagement with art about the National Park System. Funding will encourage partnerships with park areas or programs. “Imagine Your Parks” will also support projects that promote public engagement in urban environments, or that engage younger generations with the National Park System. Projects may take place at and around the National Park System, or may take place elsewhere in the United States with a focus on the work and mission of the National Park Service. “Imagine Your Parks” is funded through the NEA Art Works grant category, and guidelines are available at <http://arts.gov/grants-organizations/art-works/grant-program-description>. Projects in all art disciplines are eligible for consideration for the “Imagine Your Parks” funding. Please let us know if you are interested in preparing a proposal related to the NHT and we will help you.

Financial Assistance for Chesapeake Bay Access

National Park Service - Chesapeake is accepting project proposals for fiscal year 2015 financial assistance awards. Proposed projects must:

- “ Be within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
- “ Develop one or more of the following types of public water access facilities: boat-related access, swimming access, fishing access and/or viewing access for water, wildlife, and shoreline areas.
- “ Create new or enhanced access.
- “ Advance the development of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail or a designated water trail.
- “ Be matched by an equal (1:1) or greater amount of non-Federal support dedicated to the proposed project.

Who May Apply: Applicants for National Park Service (NPS) - Chesapeake financial assistance awards must be either a non-profit organization (qualified under section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code) or a state or local government. For Federal sites, only non-Federal partner organizations may apply.

Award Amount: Awards range from \$10,000 to \$125,000, or potentially higher. The requested funds must be matched by an equal (1:1) or greater amount of non-Federal support dedicated to the project.

Application Deadline: Project Applications must be submitted via email to NPS - Chesapeake. Deadline for submission is 3:00pm on Friday, April 10, 2015. Potential project applicants must carefully review the Program Guidelines & Application Instructions. Get the full details on the NPS Chesapeake website: <http://www.nps.gov/chba/learn/management/financial-assistance-for-partners.htm>

Read the Revolution

The Museum of the American Revolution issues Read the Revolution, a biweekly newsletter to inspire learning about the history of the American Revolution and its ongoing relevance. In the summer of 1781, General George Washington faced a crossroads. The Continental Army's resources were depleted; its soldiers disheartened. Two options lay before Washington: attempt to reclaim New York, or head south to defeat a British stronghold in Yorktown. Jack Kelly's book *Band of Giants* describes the circumstances surrounding Washington's important decision to march his troops to Virginia. The successful Siege of Yorktown would break Britain's will to continue the war, although it would be two more years until the final peace treaty was signed. To subscribe to Read the Revolution, visit <http://amrevmuseum.org/read-the-revolution> To learn more about the Museum's progress and plans for a national museum in Philadelphia that will tell the complete story of the Revolution, visit <http://timelife.americanrevolutioncenter.org/> about about the March to Victory: Washington Rochambeau and the Yorktown Campaign of 1781.

March to Victory: Washington Rochambeau and the Yorktown Campaign of 1781

March to Victory: Washington Rochambeau and the Yorktown Campaign of 1781 was recently reprinted and released to the public. This is Dr. Robert Selig's concise historical narrative that explains the entire Yorktown campaign that led to the final victory in the Revolutionary War. It's available at <http://www.amazon.com/March-victory-Washington-Rochambeau-Yorktown/dp/B003ARSN9A>

About the National Park Service

More than 20,000 National Park Service employees help care for America's National Parks, Heritage Areas, Trails, Wild & Scenic Rivers, and other affiliated, related areas and programs. They work with communities across the nation to preserve natural resources and our shared cultural heritage and to create close-to-home recreational and educational opportunities. Visit us at www.nps.gov, on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice, Twitter www.twitter.com/natlparkservice, and YouTube www.youtube.com/nationalparkservice