August 2015

On August 25, 2015, we celebrated the 99th birthday of the National Park Service! Look for ways to find your park as we gear up to celebrate the centennial.

Find Your Revolutionary War Park

Each month we will be highlighting one of the many National Parks that share the story of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. See the Places to Go section of the website to find your
festival in Annapolis, MD

7th Annual W3R® Celebration and Free Ice Cream Social
Marcus Hook, PA

6th Annual Revolutionary War Weekend at Fishkill Supply Depot in NY

October 18, 2015
W3R-US Board Meeting in Yorktown

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.

Valley Forge National Historical Park

Located about twenty miles northwest of Philadelphia, Valley Forge National Historical Park preserves the grounds of the Continental Army’s most legendary winter encampment of 1777-1778. The park commemorates the army’s perseverance to overcome the hardships of that winter and their transformation into a professional fighting force. On May 6th, 1778 the army celebrated the French Alliance on the Grand Parade grounds of the encampment. This alliance brought General Rochambeau and his French army to the United States two years later.

The Grand Parade at Valley Forge National Historical Park.

NPS photo

Connecticut Bike Ride on the NHT

Join the National Park Service and the National Park Foundation as we kick off a nationwide campaign to celebrate the National Park Service Centennial.
On Sunday, August 16th, Stephen Shaw (Sons of the American Revolution/Society of the Cincinnati) and Sal Lilienthal (Director/Owner, Bicycle Tour Company) and others cycled the across Connecticut from Sterling to Ridgefield, 118 miles to promote the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail. They rode the same route the French army took when they marched across the state in 1780 to join up with American forces in the revolution. Led by Sal Lilienthal, the group completed the ride and were successful at getting the word out. See their press release and more detailed information [here](#). You can also find a detailed guide and map of the historic route [here](#).

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**New York Outdoor Wayside Exhibits**

The outdoor wayside exhibits for fifteen sites in New York selected as destinations for the Washington-Rochambeau NHT have been fabricated and delivered. Let us know if you have any questions. We are working with the Town of Cortlandt to explore marking the NHT route with banners (ten) in Verplanck and Van Cortlandtville. We will be working to develop a New York brochure (similar in format to that used by NPS) to map the route and highlights the story and fifteen destinations in New York.

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**Maryland Trails Coordination**
On July 23, Robert Reyes of W3R-US and MD convened a group to discuss the future of Revolutionary Trails in MD in Baltimore. David A. Lange, Chief of the NPS Northeast Region Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program, facilitated the discussion. Click here for summary.

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**Delaware Trail Coordination**

Kim Burdick, W3R-US/DE is organizing a meeting in Wilmington, Delaware on September 15, 2015 to discuss Delaware’s portion of the NHT. The trail in Delaware was laid out and marked in time for the 225th anniversary of the Yorktown Campaign in 2006. Now that the trail has federal designation, Delaware is ready to refresh their plan and join their efforts with those of neighboring states.

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**Treaty of Paris Festival in Annapolis, MD**

The 2015 National Treaty of Paris Festival will take place on Friday and Saturday, September 11-12, with the theme, “Alexander Hamilton: George Washington's Indispensable Partner.” Join us for morning, afternoon and evening events at the Maryland Inn, the Maryland State House, the Chase-Lloyd House, the John Callahan House, the Brice House, St. John’s College and the Annapolis Collection Gallery. For more information on all of our activities, please go to: www.treatyofpariscenter.org.

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**7th Annual W3R® Celebration and Free Ice Cream Social Marcus Hook, PA**

Marcus Hook Preservation Society and the Washington – Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail Association cordially invite you to the 7th Annual W3R® Celebration and Free Ice Cream Social
Saturday, September 5, 2015. Festivities begin at the Historic Plank House at 12:30 PM, 221 Market Street, Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania. Mr. B. David Emerson will present “Washington’s interactions with Rochambeau” followed by a FREE ice cream social. Go to here for details about the celebration and ceremony.

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6th Annual Revolutionary War Weekend at Fishkill Supply Depot in NY

On Saturday, September 19th, as part of the 6th Annual Revolutionary War Weekend event, the Fishkill Historical Society (FHS) and Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot (FOFSD) will unveil display panels marking the Fishkill Supply Depot site’s inclusion in the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail, known commonly as the W3R. Research has uncovered Fishkill’s clear connection to the French forces that served in the Revolution: Fishkill’s bake ovens and stores provided the French Army with food during its route of march toward Yorktown and French soldier Jean Bonnaire, a fusilier of the Saintonge Regiment of Infantry, died in the hospital in "Phisquil" on October 31, 1781. Along with the Van Wyck Homestead Museum’s status as a Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area (HRVNHA) site, the installation of the panels further marks the national importance of the Fishkill Supply Depot and adds to the Town of Fishkill’s rich cultural heritage. For more information, please go to www.fishkillsupplydepot.org

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October 18, 2015 W3R-US Board Meeting in Yorktown

The W3R-US will be holding a board meeting on October 18 in Yorktown, VA. This during the weekend celebrating the 234th anniversary of the American-French victory in 1781 over the British. It will be marked by a variety of events October 17 and 18, at the Yorktown Victory Center and Yorktown Battlefield.
A patriotic parade and commemorative ceremony will be held on Monday, October 19 – Yorktown Day – in historic Yorktown and at Yorktown Battlefield. On October 19, admission to Yorktown Battlefield will be free as part of the Yorktown Day celebration. For more information about Colonial National Historical Park visit [www.nps.gov/colo](http://www.nps.gov/colo).